

Assad says he is still committed to land for peace

DAMASCUS (Reuters) — Syrian President Hafez Assad said yesterday that he was still committed to making peace with Israel on the basis of the land-for-peace principle.

Assad's remarks on peace, his first since Syria and Israel this week accused each other of preparing for war, were made during talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda, presidential spokesman Joubran Kourieh said.

"President Assad said that Syria was still committed to the peace process on the basis of the international legitimacy, (UN) resolutions and the land-for-peace principle," Kourieh said.

Israel sent Syria a message on Wednesday via Washington saying it was committed to peace and wanted to open negotiations without preconditions.

Syria and Israel accused each other this week of escalating tension.

Israel broke off peace talks with Syria and recalled its negotiating team from Washington in March after a wave of suicide bombings by Islamic militants killed 59 people.

Ikeda left Damascus for Jordan yesterday after meeting Assad and signing a \$9.46 million grant to Syria, Japanese officials said.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman told Reuters Ikeda told Assad that Japan wanted to see an early resumption of the peace negotiations between Israel and the Arabs on the basis of the land-for-peace principle.

"This was the message which we conveyed here and we will convey it when we go to Israel later on this trip," he said.

Ikeda also stressed the necessity of fighting all types of "terrorism," the spokesman said.

Japanese officials said Ikeda, who started his Middle East tour in Egypt, left Damascus for Jordan by road. He will also visit Israel, the Palestinian Authority areas and Saudi Arabia.

Earlier yesterday, Ikeda and Syrian Minister of State for Planning Affairs Abdul-Rahim Sba'i signed an agreement for a grant to help finance the construction of an electric power training center in Syria, the spokesman said.

The agreement brings Japan's soft loans, grants and technical assistance given to Syria since 1973 to a total of more than \$1.5 billion.



Chechen rebels (right) and Russian Interior Ministry troops seated on an armored personnel carrier watch as civilians return to their homes inside Grozny at a checkpoint yesterday. Russia began withdrawing troops from the breakaway Chechnya capital as Russians and Chechens prepared to set up joint forces to patrol the war-torn region. (Story, Page 3.)

PM names Avraham Tamir to staff, after failing to establish national security council

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME MINISTER Binyamin Netanyahu has been forced to backtrack on plans to set up a US-style national security council, due to the opposition of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. But he has succeeded in persuading a former general — Avraham Tamir — to join his staff as a "strategic adviser."

Tamir, 70, who was involved in negotiating security arrangements for Israel to the past, has also served as a top aide to Shimon Peres.

Netanyahu's failure to create the security council follows his inability to create a Council of Economic Advisers in the face of resistance from the Bank of Israel. Currently, Netanyahu does not have a single economist on his staff.

Mordechai's resistance to setting up the security council has prevented Netanyahu from taking one of the leading members of the security establishment — Defense Ministry director-general David Ivry — into the Prime Minister's Office.

From the beginning, Mordechai has opposed the formation of a national security council, presuming that such a body would diminish his own role.

"Israel already has the best NSC; it is the existing defense cabinet," Mordechai told *Jane's Defense Weekly* in an interview to be published this week. Last week, he told the American-based *Defense News* that the idea of a NSC was out of the question.

"I don't think a national security council is needed in this small country, where there



Maj.-Gen. (res.) Avraham Tamir (Gil Hadani)

already exists such a close relationship between the prime minister and those charged with defense and national security affairs. Both Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres came to the conclusion that we don't need another echelon," Mordechai was quoted as saying.

Senior officials have called Tamir a "territorial dove and security hawk." During negotiations for the withdrawal from Sinai under the Camp David Accords, Tamir was in charge of

negotiating Sinai security arrangements with Egyptian General Taha Mahdub.

Tamir, who was a close confidant of Peres and served as Foreign Ministry director-general while Peres was foreign minister between 1986-1988, is known to have held a secret meeting during the 1980s with Yasser Arafat in Mozambique and reportedly even met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Despite his long association with Peres, Tamir endorsed Netanyahu before the May elections, saying the Likud leader would continue the peace process but would insist on better security terms. Tamir and Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold agree on the need to construct a regional security system.

Apart from dealing with regional security issues, it seems Tamir will be involved in negotiating security issues during any talks with Syria and Lebanon.

Earlier last week, Netanyahu announced the appointment of former chief of general staff Dan Shomron to head the steering committee for Palestinian negotiations.

Netanyahu will be retaining the same military advisers, but is now calling them his "security staff."

Netanyahu's personal military attaché, Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne, is now being called the head of the security staff. Tamir is listed as a member of the staff, as is Livne's deputy and intelligence aide, Col. Shimon Shapiro, and Netanyahu's adviser on terrorism, Brig.-Gen. Yigal Pressler.

Arish O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

Erekat: Talks will begin by Sept. 2

JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

PALESTINIAN Authority Minister Saeb Erekat, who will lead the PLO team to be holding talks with Israel, said yesterday that Israel had informed PA Chairman Yasser Arafat that it wanted to begin the negotiations before September 2.

"The Israelis have informed [Arafat] that talks between the committees will start before September 2, but they did not set a firm date," Erekat told Reuters.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman Shai Bazak told Reuters: "It will start soon...We are not yet announcing a date."

On Thursday, Netanyahu telephoned Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to tell him that peace talks with the Palestinians would resume "in the very near future."

Netanyahu was apparently shaken by Mubarak's suggestion earlier on Thursday that he might cancel the Cairo economic summit to November over Israel's stalling on negotiations.

One PLO official said yesterday that Israel was anxious to have the talks going before a meeting of international donors who have pledged support for the peace process.

"Israel wants the talks to start before the September 5 international donors meeting, so they will ease pressure on them over freezing the peace talks and to show the donors it is committed to the peace process," the PLO official said.

US President Bill Clinton has responded to a letter from Arafat, which complained of new Israeli policies, saying the US is committed to the peace process and is ready to facilitate an agreement, Wafa, the PLO news agency, said Friday.

Arafat sent Clinton a letter a week ago to complain about the change in Israeli policy on settlements, but Clinton did not address this issue directly in his response.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Council in Gaza yesterday discussed settlements, relations with Arab countries and the future of Hamas prisoners.

Palestinian Police on Friday released Sheikh Hassan Yusuf, a leading Hamas supporter, after six months in jail in Ramallah.

There are growing demands for the release of more than 300 Hamas prisoners arrested after the February-March suicide bombings, who have been held without charges. More than 900 were originally arrested and those remaining in jail are considered the most militant.

The Palestinian High Court called last week for the release of 10 Bir Zeit University students who have not been charged. An investigation into the Tulkarm riot three weeks ago made similar recommendations for releasing prisoners.

Yusuf called for "mutual understanding" between the PA and Hamas to combat what he called the new Israeli threat to Palestinians. The demands for prisoner releases follows widely publicized examples of human rights abuses by Palestinian Police as well as resentment over Israeli policies.

Palestinian journalists boycotted the council meeting in Gaza yesterday after three journalists were beaten by an officer of Force 17, the militia directly responsible for guarding Arafat. The officer made the three video cameramen, Shams Shbana and Sawah Abu Seif of Reuters and Mobammed Daoudi of WTN, stand in the sun, bit them and insulted them.

The commander of Force 17, Brig. Faisal Abu Sharekh, met with senior members of the journalists union and promised to arrest the officer.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian press reported that a second 50-seater aircraft from the Netherlands had arrived at El-Arish airport in Sinai last week, but was not permitted to land at the Gaza airport.

Brig. Fayez Zidan, head of the Palestinian airport authority, accused Israel of purposely delaying the operation of the Gaza airport. On Thursday, the Palestinian Council called a temporary ban on flights by Arafat himself from Gaza to Ramallah "an insult."

Report: Mideast terror heads met in Teheran before TWA plane explosion

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

A FEW weeks before the crash of TWA Flight 800, leaders of several Middle Eastern terrorist groups backed by Iran met in Teheran to plan terrorist acts, *The New York Times* reported in yesterday's editions.

The FBI has not yet determined the cause of the July 17 plane crash. However, investigators have found traces of PETN, a component of plastic explosives, on a piece of wreckage from the cabin of the plane, the *Times* reported.

There is no evidence linking the meeting in Teheran to the TWA crash, intelligence officials told the *Times* on Friday. Iran is not known to have targeted Americans recently, and the time span between the meeting, in June, and the crash may have been too short to execute a complex operation, the newspaper said.

However, the meeting, and the organizations represented there, are among the items investigators are reviewing in their inquiry into the TWA crash, the paper reported.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and its leader, Ahmed Jibril, were at that session, the paper said. Jibril came to the Teheran meeting to ask for permission to carry out terrorist attacks against American interests, an unnamed intelligence official told the *Times*.

Leaders of Hizbullah and the Egyptian branch of Islamic Jihad were also at the session, the *Times* reported. The Egyptian group is loyal to Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, convicted in New York of plotting to blow up the UN. Some of the cleric's followers were convicted of the bombing of the World Trade Center.

The newspaper said the era of terrorist bomb

attacks on planes began on August 11, 1982, when a device went off on a Pan Am flight from Tokyo to Honolulu. The device was triggered when a passenger — a Japanese boy — sat on his seat. The boy died, although pilots were able to land the plane.

That bomb came to be regarded as the signature of the May 15 Organization, a Palestinian terrorist group named for the date in 1948 on which Israel was established, the newspaper said. However, the group never claimed responsibility for that or a number of bombs that authorities believe were planted by its members.

Mohammed Rashid, a member of the May 15 Organization, was arrested in Athens in 1988 and convicted for the 1982 Honolulu bombing. Rashid remains in a Greek prison. However, the leader of the May 15 Organization, Abu Ibrahim, and other members, remain free, the *Times* said.

Jibril and the Popular Front were suspects in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Although two Libyans were indicted in that case, some intelligence experts still suspect a link between the Popular Front and that bombing because, weeks earlier, German authorities arrested several members of the Jibril organization and confiscated bombs similar to the one that later blew up the Pan Am jet, the newspaper said.

Since the 1982 bomb, more than 1,000 people have died in suspected terrorist bombings of airplanes. That figure does not include the 230 people killed on TWA Flight 800, because the cause of the crash has not yet been determined. If the explosion on Flight 800 is classified as a terrorist act, it would also represent the first terrorist bombing of an aircraft departing from the US.

Kahalani warns cabinet of increase in organized crime

ORGANIZED crime is becoming more entrenched here, and much of it is run by immigrants from the former Soviet Union who have opened thriving illegal operations, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani told the cabinet on Friday.

He noted that organized crime figures from the CIS have also held conferences here, primarily because "business" here has been so good and because there are so many Russian-speakers here.

Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky expressed anger at what he understood to be Kahalani's "direct connection between organized crime and immigrants' social and political frameworks."

Sharansky demanded to know if there was any truth to reports of a "Russian mafia" and if criminals have ever been found to operate in immigrant frameworks.

Kahalani stressed that his ministry does not use the term "Russian mafia," but refers to "international crime," and added that police had established a special unit to deal with it.

Following the cabinet meeting, Kahalani's office issued a statement reiterating that there was no place for reports about a "Russian mafia."

The ministry rejects attempts to link organized crime specifically to the immigrant community, the statement added. (Tim)

Cabinet puts off decision on foreign workers

News agencies

THE cabinet on Friday heard an extensive summary of the problems relating to foreign workers and debated various proposals for dealing with them, but did not make any firm decisions on a course of action.

"We will act to reduce drastically the presence of illegal foreign workers as well as cut the scope of foreign laborers who enter the country with a permit," a cabinet statement quoted Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu as saying. The communiqué said the cabinet would make a "practical decision" next week.

The cabinet communiqué quoted Netanyahu as saying that while "strong action" was needed to stop foreign workers staying in Israel illegally, "we are talking about human beings and we must treat them accordingly."

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai presented his proposal to deport 1,000 illegal workers monthly, but at that rate it would take more than eight years to expel all the 100,000 workers said to be here illegally — assuming police could round them all up and no more illegal workers entered in the interim. Another 100,000 people are working here legally.

"There is a problem here. [Hiring foreigners] pays — it is good for building contractors," Yishai told Israel Radio on Friday. "We may have to keep a quota of foreign workers. The question is how many."

Yishai told the cabinet of his visit Thursday to a neighborhood with a heavy concentration of foreign workers. More than 60,000 foreign workers — from Nigeria, Ghana, Thailand, Egypt, Romania, Turkey, the Philippines, and other countries are now living in Tel Aviv, many of them in squalid conditions that foster disease and crime.

"From what the municipality people tell me, there are no Jews left in the neighborhood," Yishai told Army Radio on Friday.

"There is a tough situation ... and the sexual harassment of Israeli women. Diseases are arriving in Israel like tuberculosis and AIDS, and it is a heavy burden on the health system," he said.

Yishai told the cabinet that an interministerial committee set up last month had suggested deporting between 500 and 2,000 illegal foreign workers a month. The committee also suggested reducing the number of legally employed foreigners by refusing to renew their work permits.

Yishai also asked for a budget of NIS 45 million to set up an authority that would deal with all aspects of foreign workers, from setting the conditions under which they would be allowed to enter the country to locating the illegal foreign workers and arranging for their deportation.

Meretz MK Ran Cohen said he supported a proposal to set up transit camps to hold the illegal workers for several days before their expulsion. "It won't be a concentration camp," he said.

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Jerusalem 16-20

Jerusalem 17-20

Jerusalem 18-20

Jerusalem 19-20

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PA: Closure will cost \$600m. in 1996

DAVID HARRIS

THE Palestinian Authority areas will lose some \$600 million this year because of the closure, imposed six months ago today, the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PEDCAR) said over the weekend.

"The closure has created a deep economic crisis," said the organization's director, Muhammad Ishtayeh, who called for an end to the closure and for Israel to meet a series of demands to restore the economic viability of the territories.

According to PEDCAR, unemployment has risen over the last six months by 40 percent in the West Bank and 51% in Gaza. The territories' forecasted budget deficit for 1996 has risen from \$75m. to \$150m., it said.

Ishtayeh demanded that Israel end the use of foreign workers and allow the PA to trade freely with Egypt and Jordan either directly or via Israel. He also called for a series of confidence building measures, including an end to the back-to-back trading

system, allowing the Gaza airport to function properly, and permitting Palestinian businesspeople to enter Israel freely to meet their Israeli counterparts.

"We don't hold the new Israeli government responsible for all these problems, but the new government must end them," said Ishtayeh.

The last six months have seen a huge loss of taxes that should have come into the PA's coffers, according to PEDCAR. Both direct income tax and local VAT have been adversely affected, in addition to a considerable reduction in taxes normally recouped by the PA from Israel.

The tax clearance on dealings with Israel should bring in NIS 20m. to NIS 30m. a month, as the PA receives 70% of the customs and VAT paid on Palestinian exports to Israel. In April NIS 100,000 was raised, says PEDCAR.

"It's up to the Israelis to create a healthy investment environment in Palestine, Israel and the region as a whole," said Ishtayeh.



Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak observes an exercise by Central Command reserve paratroopers over the weekend along with (left to right) OC Ground Forces Maj.-Gen. Amos Malcha and OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan. (Dan Erlich/IDF Spokesman)

Jordan rejects Israeli criticism of Yarmuk dam project with Syria

THE Jordanian government Friday rejected Israeli criticism of a proposed joint Yarmuk River dam project with Syria, saying it did not contradict the peace agreement with Israel.

"We have every right to build the dam, which has been planned for some time," the Jordanian Irrigation Minister told the Jordanian newspaper Al-Dustur. He was replying to criticism by Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, who said the project contradicted the 1994 peace agreement.

A joint Jordanian-Syrian committee approved the plan Wednesday, part of an agreement reached between the two sides in 1987. Israel strongly opposed the plan in the past, threatening to destroy the dam or take it over, thereby deterring the World Bank from financing the project, which will cost some \$450 million.

The Jordanian minister said his country had every right to consider any plan aimed at protecting its share of the Yarmuk's waters.

The convening of the committee followed a long delay caused by tension between the two countries, alleviated by King Hussein's recent visit to Damascus. (Itm)

Jordan steps up anti-Iraq rhetoric

AMMAN (Reuters) - Jordan yesterday stepped up its campaign of accusations that Iraq was involved in the kingdom's worst unrest in seven years, citing evidence gathered from pro-Baghdad detainees.

"We have established facts that orders were issued by Iraq's Baath party to use the bread issue to stir trouble to hit back at the king and the government for their anti-Iraq policies," a Jordanian official said.

The new allegations were made a day after an official source said Jordan had asked Adel Ibrahim, the Iraqi embassy's press attache, to leave because he was carrying out duties "incompatible with diplomatic norms," implying he was accused of spying.

The Jordanian official also confirmed

reports that Amman banned Khaled Rashid Mislak from coming to Jordan to take up his post as the new first secretary at the Iraqi embassy in Amman "because we found out he was an Iraqi intelligence officer."

Jordan's state-controlled newspapers ran headlines implicating Iraq in the unrest, which erupted last weekend after the government doubled bread prices under radical economic reforms demanded by the International Monetary Fund.

King Hussein and Prime Minister Abdul-Karim Kabarid have blamed the trouble on Iraq and a local pro-Baghdad party.

But government attempts to link the rioting to foreign influence have been treated with derision by many politicians and those

in the streets, who blame the protests on severe economic hardships and rising poverty and unemployment.

"We have written confessions from detainees that point to the involvement of official Iraqi parties in instigating the unrest," a senior government official said.

Security forces have arrested scores of leaders and members of the Jordanian Arab Socialist Baath Party (JASBP) since trouble flared in the party's traditional bastion in the southern town of Karak eight days ago, and spread to nearby towns before reaching an area in downtown Amman.

Officials have hinted the government might dissolve the JASBP for violating Jordanian laws and ask Iraq to reduce the

number of Iraqi diplomats in Jordan, said to be over 20.

The party, which has one deputy in the 80-seat parliament and maintains strong links with Iraq's ruling Baath party of President Saddam Hussein, has denied involvement in the unrest.

Meanwhile, the army withdrew its heavy presence from Karak and lifted a curfew on its residents with the return of order, residents and officials said.

Armored vehicles that had ringed Karak and deployed along most of the old city's inner roads were pulled out at dawn, hours after the main Friday prayers, the starting point of last week's troubles, passed peacefully.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Haredim demonstrate on Rehov Bar-Ilan

Hundreds of haredim demonstrated once again on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan yesterday afternoon, demanding that the thoroughfare be closed to traffic on Shabbat and holidays. Police dispersed a group of some 100 demonstrators who tried to block the road at midday. A few hours later, a protest march by some 200 bareim on a side street was also dispersed. The demonstrators yelled "shabbos" at passing vehicles but there were no serious incidents. (Itm)

Three killed, one hurt on roads

An Eilat resident was killed and his wife moderately injured yesterday afternoon when their car hit a truck head-on on the Arava road. The man, whose name was not released, was on leave from reserve duty. His wife was taken to Josephthal Hospital in Eilat. Tamar Dvorkesky, 21, was fatally injured in a hit-and-run accident while riding her bicycle on a ramp leading down to the Ayalon highway. She died at Ichilov Hospital. (Itm)

Hilda Reif, 70, was killed when a car hit her as she crossed at a crosswalk on Rehov Tashah in Tel Aviv. The 35-year-old driver was arrested and released on bail. (Itm)

Furniture factory damaged in fire

Heavy damage was caused to a furniture factory which went up in flames on Friday night in Tel Aviv's Rehov Hahaganah. No one was injured but residents of surrounding buildings were evacuated. A truck and two cars outside the building were also damaged. (Itm)

Two children hurt in fall from home

Two children playing on a bed in a Gedera home suddenly fell out a second-story window into the yard last night. The children, aged two and three, were brought by a Magen David Adom team to Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital. One was suffering from a broken leg and the other from head injuries. (Itm)

IDF set to inaugurate military law school

The IDF has set up a military law school that will give military commanders, particularly at the mid-level ranks, a deeper understanding of their legal responsibilities. The school, located at the Yzrifin Base, will be inaugurated this week. (Itm)

"The school will deal with inculcating the values of law and order and deepening the legal knowledge of officers from the military prosecution," an IDF statement said. (Aryeh O'Sullivan)

Our daughter and sister

TAMAR RONIT DVOSKIN

has been taken from us in the prime of her life.

The funeral will take place today,
Sunday, August 25, 1996, at 3 p.m.
at the New Cemetery in Ra'anana.

Loving and mourning,
Susie, Danny, Oren and Oded.

With deepest sorrow we announce the death of our dearly beloved and unforgettable husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather

HARRY SOESMAN

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, August 25, 1996 (Elul 10, 5756), at 4:00 p.m. at the Zichron Ya'acov cemetery.

Helen Soesman-Freundlich
Jonathan, Malka and Liora Soesman
Avra Soesman and Uriah Av-Ron
Daniella Soesman
Gideon Soesman

The shiva will be held at 6 Yigal Alon St., Zichron Ya'acov.

With great sorrow and profound grief we announce the passing of the beloved head of our family

MURIEL KAPPEL ROSSOW KOEPEL

The funeral took place at the family plot in New Jersey.

Mourning by
Her children: Marcia Rossow Lawison and
Robert Joel Rossow.
Grandchildren: Renee Lawison Ahdut and
Dr. Monique Lawison Levy,
Scott Rossow, Carl Rossow and
Adam Rossow.
Great-grandchildren: Matthew Ahdut, Efraim Ahdut,
Adi Levy and Maya Levy
Sister: Elaine Kappel Wink

Shiva at the home of the deceased in Silver Spring, Md.

Cairo paper suggests Israeli attitude may delay summit

CAIRO (Reuters) - The Middle East economic conference planned for Cairo in November may not take place on time, the Egyptian government newspaper Al-Ahram said on Friday.

Even if it does take place, it will be doomed to failure unless Israel changes its attitude toward its neighbors, Al-Ahram editor Ibrahim Nafie said in a front-page editorial.

The Al-Ahram editor, a pillar of the Egyptian ruling

establishment, said that normal relations with Israel would not be possible if the pre-set stalemate and tension continued.

"Whether the conference takes place on time or not, Israel's settlement activity and its failure to meet its commitments will make the failure of the conference inevitable," he said.

"In this case Israel must bear full responsibility for its failure if it [the conference] does convene," he added.

Colonel who seized reporters' phone records receives warning, reprimand

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE Military Police detective with the rank of colonel who ordered the seizure of journalists' mobile telephone records in an attempt to stem leaks received a warning and two reprimands.

Military sources said over the weekend that Col. Avner Liron was given a disciplinary hearing last week by Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Brik, head of the IDF's Staff and Command College. The IDF came under heavy criticism after it was learned the Military Police had used journalists' telephone records in an attempt to plug leaks.

Brik found Liron guilty on all three counts: exceeding his authority, negligence and behavior unbecoming an officer, the military sources said.

Liron was convicted of overstepping his authority by using the list of telephone calls made by Israel Radio reporter Yoni Ben-Menachem. He was also found guilty of negligence for destroying lists concerning the use of the information he obtained and not properly documenting it. But Brik accepted Liron's denial of the third charge that he intentionally hid the full use of the information he obtained.

Liron reportedly was allowed to examine an eight-day list of telephone calls made by Ben-Menachem in an effort to plug leaks from the army, but he reportedly reviewed six whole months of telephone calls made by the reporter. For this he was given a warning, the sources said. He was reprimanded for the second and third charges.

Chief Military Prosecutor Brig.-Gen. Ori Shoham had dismissed Liron over proceedings were completed against him. But the head of Military Police ordered Liron thrown out of the unit, military sources said. Liron will not be forced to leave the military and is expected to be reassigned to another position in the IDF, the sources said.

A captain who Liron found to be the source of leaks to Ben-Menachem had been given a 28-day suspended sentence.

Report: Elbit to help Romania upgrade its fighter jets

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE Israeli defense firm Elbit is helping Romania upgrade its fleet of aging MiG-21 fighter jets with advanced avionics in a deal worth around NIS 1 billion, the British-based Jane's Defence Weekly reported.

The report presented the first details of the program to beef up over 100 Romanian warplanes. It said Elbit had teamed with Aerostar of Romania, which will overhaul the structure and engine of the MiGs.

"Although there are at least

two other MiG-21 upgrade programs underway at present, in Cambodia and India, none are on the scale of the Romanian program," said Michael Gething, editor of Jane's Defence System Modernization. "The former is refurbishment with little in the way of capability upgrade, while the latter is still in the development stages after delays in selecting sub-contractors," he said.

Elbit and Aerostar have reportedly already supplied three prototypes, which will be on display at the Farnborough International Air Show next month. Deliveries of the first upgraded MiG-21 Lancer are scheduled for October. Elbit is designing and integrating modern avionics for the major upgrade program. Elbit recently lost out to Israel Aircraft Industries in a tender to upgrade US Air Force F-16 fighter jets in a deal potentially worth \$425 million.

Three drown over weekend

DAVID RUDGE and Nim

THREE people died over the weekend in separate drowning accidents around the country.

In one of the incidents, three youths got into trouble aboard a small boat off the coast of Adit yesterday. The spokeswoman for the Haifa police district said they shouted for help as their craft was swept out to sea and a Coast Guard boat was sent to their rescue. Two of the youths managed to reach the shore safely on their own, but the third, Hassan Udah, 16, of Haifa went missing.

Searches were instigated and his body was later found about 50 meters from the shore.

Meanwhile, police said a 43-year-old American tourist drowned in Lake Kinneret yesterday. The police spokesman said the man, who had been on vacation in the area with his wife, went swimming from the Ginosar beach. His body was found two hours later not far from the shore. An 18-month-old boy who suf-

fered injuries from nearly drowning Tuesday in the swimming pool at Club Med in Eilat died on Friday at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital. The baby's parents had left him with a 16-year-old babysitter while they went on an ATV ride in the desert.

The baby ran away from the babysitter, and he was eventually found at the bottom of the swimming pool. A Magen David Adom team revived the baby; however he suffered brain damage and was sent to Soroka, where he died.

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Tour guide: Israel Shalem

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Tour guide: Oded Feder

Tuesday October 8 REJUVENATING THE DEAD SEA

The lowest place on earth where the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah used to stand is now undergoing a revolutionary rebirth. Peace with Jordan has brought new connections. We'll visit the famous Dead Sea Works, the new Volkswagen magnesium project, Wadi Zohar and Mt. Sodom, the hotels in Ein Bokek and more.

NIS 170 including lunch

Tour guide: Oded Feder

Wednesday October 16 ZICHRON YA'ACOV - REMEMBERING JACOB

Formerly called Zamarin, this beautiful town on the hills overlooking the Mediterranean was one of the prime achievements of the First Aliyah, thanks to the help of Baron Rothschild, and the birthplace of the Nili underground. In spite of its new prosperity, it retains the atmosphere of the Halutzim. We'll visit the winery, the Ohel Ya'acov synagogue (site of the first Orthodox/Reform debate), the Roman fortress of Shuni, Gan Hanadiv, and Beit Daniel.

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Tour guide: Ya'acov Shorer

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Belgium asks how pedophile eluded police

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - Belgian police searched two more houses yesterday for bodies in a child-sex scandal of murder, kidnapping and pornography that has sent a shock-wave of revulsion throughout Europe.

Reckless built up over how the scandal's central figure, convicted child rapist Marc Dutroux, managed to prey on children unhindered for so long.

In just over a week two young girls have been found dead, from starvation, two have been freed from a dungeon-like secret compartment and an international hunt has started for at least two others.

Yesterday investigators with dogs trained to find bodies searched one house at Ransart and one at Mont-sur-Marchienne - both suburbs of the southern city of Charleroi. Both houses are owned by Dutroux.

Belgian media speculated that Dutroux, charged with abduction and illegal imprisonment of children, must have had high level protection to molest youngsters.

They put forward no proof to support the speculation, but seized on a comment by chief prosecutor Michel Bourlet on Belgian television night that he would chase down everyone involved in the case "if I am allowed to".

Bourlet said between 300 and 400 pedophile porn video tapes had been seized, some of which featured Dutroux.

Dutroux was charged a week ago after police rescued two young girls from a concrete dungeon in the basement of one of the six houses he owns in and around Charleroi.

Just a day later the national euphoria at the rescue turned to disgust as Dutroux led police to the bodies of two eight-year-old girls in another of his houses.

Julie Lejeune and Melissa Russo, had been kidnapped in June last year. Dutroux said they starved to death nine months later.

He also admitted kidnapping two other girls, An Marchal and Eefje Lambrechts, a year ago.

The fate of the girls is unknown, but there has been speculation they were sold into prostitution in Slovakia or the Czech Republic where Dutroux was a frequent visitor. Belgian police have visited Bratislava and will visit Prague.

Five other people have been arrested including Dutroux's second wife Michelle Martin, charged as an accomplice. The others have been charged with abduction and illegal imprisonment of children or are suspected of criminal association.

Dutch police are also holding a 74-year old Dutchman in connection with the disappearance of An and Eefje, although a spokesman said no direct link had yet been established.

At least part of the speculation in the Belgian media of high-level protection for Dutroux and his accomplices is based on leaked documents cataloguing a high degree of police bungling, incompetence and indifference.

Among the revelations are the fact that the gendarmerie was running a surveillance operation code-named "Othello" against Dutroux in 1995 - when both Julie and Melissa and An and Eefje were kidnapped.

They show that the gendarmes were aware that Dutroux was building cells in some of his houses for holding children, yet this information was either not passed on to other police forces searching for the missing girls or was overlooked when it was.

They also show that police investigating a theft visited Dutroux late last year at the house where Julie and Melissa were being held but accepted his word that the children's cries they could hear came from neighbors.

THE Russian soldiers stood in formation, facing a ragtag band of the tough Chechen guerrillas who had run them out of Grozny. Then, in what many hope is a prelude to peace, the former foes melted into a single unit.

The patrols, being sworn in in the village of Staroye Atagi yesterday afternoon, will bring Russian soldiers shoulder-to-shoulder with men they had known previously only as "bandits" and "criminals".

"We'll see if this works," said a young Russian captain. "Let's hope so. My men just want to go home."

As their leaders met to hash out a political agreement, soldiers on both sides of the Chechen war started implementing a truce that has ended the bloodbath in Grozny.

National security chief Alexander Lebed, back in Chechnya with Boris Yeltsin's endorsement of his peace efforts, held talks with Russian officers, then headed for a negotiating session with the separatist leadership in Noviy Atagi, 25 km south of Grozny.

Meanwhile, outside a Russian base a few km away in Staroye Atagi the first joint units were forming.

Today, according to a truce Lebed signed with the rebels earlier this week, fighters from both sides were supposed to start pulling out of Grozny as the joint units began patrolling the ravaged city.

Next week, they are to withdraw from several southern regions and, eventually, from Chechnya altogether.

"The question of Chechnya's status is a difficult one, but we hope to find a solution in the interests of both Russia and the Chechen people," Interfax news agency quoted Lebed as saying.

NEWS AGENCIES GROZNY

An Interfax report from Moscow quoted "well-informed sources" as saying the two sides might defer a decision on Chechnya's status for five years to let the situation there return to normal.

The rebels, who view Russian forces as invaders, have been seeking full independence for their Caucasus territory.

But President Boris Yeltsin, expressing support for Lebed on Friday, said any political deal must define Chechnya as "an integral part of the Russian Federation".

Grozny, overrun by the Chechens on Aug. 6 in some of the worst fighting of the 20-month war, was relatively quiet yesterday, the second day of the cease-fire.

Chechen fighters were even helping bring food and water to some of the beleaguered Russian units they had surrounded inside Grozny. They also had their Russian prisoners digging up Russian dead from the battle so the bodies could be returned home.

"I'm not 100 percent convinced this agreement will work," said a top Chechen commander in the capital, Isa Astamirov. "But if we work together, maybe it can. It's in the hands of God."

The Russian military reported occasional shooting, including an attack on a military convoy in Grozny yesterday, and claimed the separatists were bringing in reinforcements and fortifying their positions. The rebels denied the report.

Every previous agreement in Chechnya has crumbled amid mutual distrust and the latest one

still looks shaky. The Chechens insist they'll settle for nothing less than the full independence Russia has fought so hard against.

It likely that Lebed would instead offer mostly Muslim Chechnya a form of limited autonomy. The ITAR-Tass news agency said yesterday he might try to sweeten the offer by holding out the possibility of a referendum on the republic's political status after five years.

It quoted Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin as saying Chechnya's political status "should be decided by the people. We will do as they say."

But Chernomyrdin went on to say that Chechnya should remain part of Russia. "That's for sure," he said. "But when and with what status should be decided later, not now."

Lebed's cynical dismissal of the Russian military's ultimatum to the Chechen rebels last week to leave the Chechen capital or be carpet-bombed as a "bad joke" has raised two questions - whose joke was it and might they have more up their sleeves?

The answers could mean life or death for the civilians cowering in Grozny basements, breathing wary sighs of relief that no bombs were falling. They will be sorry to learn that no one in Moscow seems to have the responses to hand.

Lebed and his protégé, Defence Minister Igor Rodionov, have said they had nothing to do with the bombardment threats.

Chechen rebel chief-of-staff Aslan Maskhadov took them at their word. "We hope Lebed will be able to conquer those in Moscow who do not want to conclude the war," Maskhadov said after agreeing the cease-fire with Lebed.

What is not clear is just who "those in Moscow" are.

UK halts controversial prisoner releases

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain's interior minister has ordered a halt to the early release of hundreds of prisoners due to be freed following an embarrassing blunder by their jailers.

Home Secretary Michael Howard challenged new guidelines from the prison service authorizing the early release, saying the law was not clear and should be decided in court.

"The best thing to do is to suspend the release of the prisoners until we have an authoritative decision by the court," he told BBC television.

Howard had earlier said that many inmates might be entitled to compensation for having been kept too long behind bars.

A legal challenge brought by inmates last year led to a ruling by Britain's court of appeal that the prison service was miscalculating the time due to be served by many prisoners, given, consecutive sentences for a number of offences.

For instance, a prisoner who

spent a month in a remand centre before trial, and was then given three consecutive sentences, should have the total period he had to serve in jail reduced by three months, not one, it ruled.

The prison service had only just started to act on this ruling and this week released 45 inmates from three jails.

Some ex-prisoners complained they had not been prepared for their release and had no idea of how to cope with their unexpected freedom.

The Times newspaper said prisoners who had spent an excessive amount of time in jail could receive 95 pounds (\$147) a day in compensation for the blunder. The bill for the taxpayer could thus run into millions of pounds.

The bungling is a further blow for Howard who has been embarrassed in the past year by a string of adverse court rulings and by critical inquiries into break-outs from two top high-security prisons.

Former president: Iran ordered killing of Kurd leaders

BERLIN (Reuters) - Former Iranian president Abolhassan Banisadr told a Berlin court that an order to assassinate opposition Kurd leaders in Berlin in 1992 was personally signed by Iran's religious leader Ali Khamenei.

On the second day of his testimony at the trial of five men accused of the murder, Banisadr also said he had learned two months before the attack took place of plans by Tehran to carry out an assassination abroad.

The case has already strained ties between Iran and Germany, and the chief prosecutor at the trial said after Banisadr's testimony he would now examine the possibility of filing charges against Khamenei and Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

But in Tehran, Iran's top judge urged Germany to refuse to admit Banisadr's testimony, to guard its judicial reputation and avoid politicizing the trial.

"What is the judicial validity of a ruling that would be based, even for a few hundredths of percent, on the testimony of a deposed person who has fled this country?" Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi asked in a mass prayer sermon.

One Iranian, Kazem Darabi, and four Lebanese are charged with murdering four exiled Iranian Kurdish leaders and their translator in Berlin's Mykonos restaurant in September 1992.

The prosecution says Darabi hired the Lebanese on Tehran's orders to carry out the assassination. Iran denies involvement.

Banisadr has been a sworn enemy of Iran's rulers since being ousted in 1981.

He said on Thursday that Khamenei ordered the killing. He said Friday he had just learned that Khamenei signed a written order, although he still needed to corroborate this.

"There was a written confirmation from Khamenei," he said.

"The sources are reliable. You ask if they are in a position to have this information and the answer is yes. You ask if the information has proven to be accurate in the past, and the answer is yes."

Mummy is 'happy to be found'

LIMA (AP) - Juanita the frozen Inca mummy has already been at the center of an international tiff. Now, some Andean shamans say she's behind a series of deadly incidents that have plagued Peru since she was discovered.

The self-described shamans say they need to appease the mummy, known as the "Ice Princess," because she was unhappy with being disturbed from her resting place on Mount Ambato, in Peru's southern Andes.

Earlier this week, they held a healing ceremony in the city of Arequipa, 750 km southeast of Lima, near where the mummy was found in October.

Among the incidents they say have plagued the area since then are the Feb. 29 crash of a Peruvian commercial jet that killed the 123 people aboard and deaths of 35 people electrocuted last week when a high tension cable fell on a crowd celebrating the 456th anniversary of the city's founding.

Johan Reinhard said in an interview published in the El

Sol newspaper that Juanita was a gift of the "apus," a Quechua term for the spirits of the mountains that are part of traditional Andean beliefs.

"I didn't dig to find her. She was in plain sight and was not discovered thanks to any human effort, but thanks to another 'apu,' the volcano Sabancaya, which heated the area," Reinhard said.

Reinhard said others have suggested "the mummy was happy to have been found, because she was sad at being exposed to the sun."

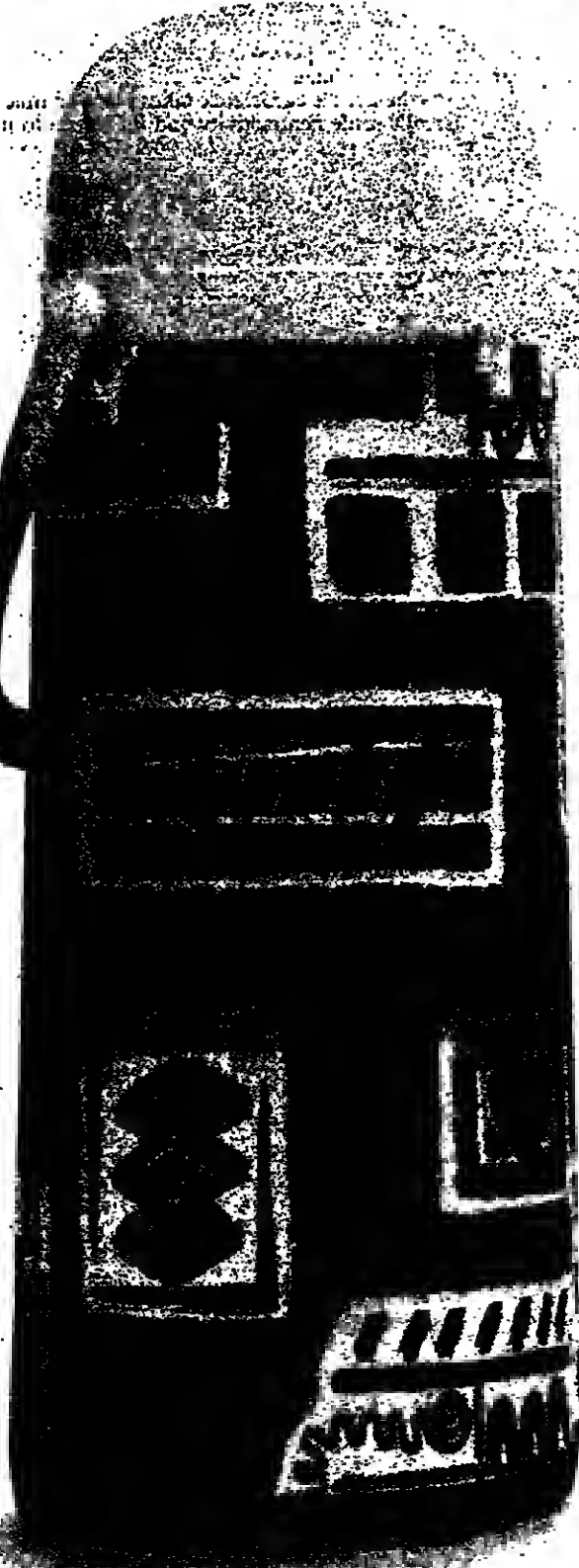
The 120-14-year-old mummy, thought to be the best preserved body from the pre-Colombian era, apparently was killed by a powerful blow to the head 500 years ago and sacrificed to the gods atop 6,096-meter-high Mount Ampato.

Juanita was displayed earlier this year in Washington and received international attention when President Clinton joked during a political fundraiser that the mummy was "good-looking" and if he were single he might ask her out.

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French air base readied for immigrant expulsions

SEVERAL African illegal workers hauled away from a Paris church where they had sought refuge were summoned to the capital's main courthouse yesterday and were expected to be expelled during the day.

An undetermined number were transferred from a military detention center to the Palais de Justice in central Paris yesterday morning, a day after police raided the St. Bernard Church.

French officials did not say how many there were at the court hearing, what their nationality was or if they were in fact being expelled.

They included however Boubakar Diop, who has acted as a spokesman for the Africans and held meetings with French officials on their behalf, according to an attorney acting representing the would-be immigrants.

"The police clearly have no reason to keep this person in detention," Caroline Mecary said. "Legally, he should be released immediately."

A French military base was reported on alert with some 50 illegal immigrants expected to be flown from there to Mali.

Air Base 105 at Evreux, 100 km northwest of Paris, was placed on alert in preparation for a charter flight to Bamako, the radio network

TERRIL JONES
PARIS

France-Info said. It also quoted Malian government sources as saying about 50 Malians were expected to be expelled from France.

A French military duty officer in Paris said he had no information on any planned expulsions.

But reporters at Air Base 105 saw two buses carrying what appeared to be the Africans and escorted by a large contingent of police passing by the base yesterday afternoon.

They could not tell if the buses entered the base, which has been used in the past for forced repatriation flights. There was a heavy police presence around the base.

The 300 Africans have been bracing for expulsion since police hauled them away from the St. Bernard church in northern Paris Friday after occupying the church for nearly two months.

Ten of the immigrants said they would continue their hunger strike into its 51st day in the hospital of a military detention center where they were taken after Friday morning's raid.

Despite their weakened state, they were not in danger, doctors at the detention center said.

None of the 10 hunger strikers will be allowed to remain in France, though the government has said any illegal aliens who are "gravely ill" will not be immediately expelled.

Prime Minister Alain Juppe and Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debré stressed over the past week that the government will look at each case individually, and not break up families or expel women who have just had children.

Debré said 70 to 90 of them would be granted temporary residence papers but the rest would be expelled.

Several women and children were released from the detention center Friday night, and yesterday had gathered at a temporary shelter in Paris run by the humanitarian group Emmaus.

On Friday, riot police armed with tear gas and truncheons broke through protesters and made their way into St. Bernard Church, in a neighborhood heavily populated by Arab and African immigrants.

They arrested about 60 supporters trying to protect the Africans.

The 300 Africans' demand for residence papers — and the government's refusal to grant them — has come to symbolize France's dilemma over its thousands of illegal immigrants. (AP)



French policemen watch a convoy leaving the detention center of Vincennes near Paris where most of the 300 immigrants removed from the St. Bernard church were taken on Friday. (Reuters)

Africans muted in criticism of France

OPPOSITION politicians in the African home countries of migrants demanding residence papers in France yesterday condemned the silence of their governments on the protest but conceded there was little they could do.

Most of the migrants are from Mali, Senegal or Zaire, whose governments have made no comment on the affair.

"Silence, it's Chirac," wrote independent Senegalese daily *Walfadjir*, attacking the obedient relationship between France's former colonies and French President Jacques Chirac.

Mamadou Diop Deroix of the Senegalese opposition party And Jeff said it was ironic that Minister of State at the Presidency, Abdoulaye Wade, was currently in Angola to mediate over Luanda's expulsion of West African illegal traders.

"The government preferred to make much more fuss over the people expelled from Angola than over those expelled from France. Despite our numerous approaches to the foreign ministry, no one wanted to know," he said.

THALIA GRIFFITHS
ABIDJAN

Mali's ruling ADEMA party said not all of those in the Saint-Bernard church had been illegal migrants, and urged the governments of Mali, France and other countries concerned to find a solution through dialogue.

Ivory Coast's government daily *Fraternite-Matin* said the lack of reaction to the protest showed how little Africa could do against the might of the former colonial powers.

"The silence or reserve of the governments of underdeveloped countries in the face of the semblance of a battle between the French authorities and these mistreated Africans proves the Afro-pessimists right," an editorial said.

"Above all, France for example, whenever she wants, can slip around the neck of developing countries the financial noose that can strangle them or condemn them to pauperism."

Ivory Coast has West Africa's most developed economy and is itself a magnet for migrant workers from neighboring countries.

French Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debré told French radio those expelled would receive financial support to help them resettle in their home countries. French Cooperation Minister Jacques Godfrain will visit Mali next month.

Debré has organized about 20 charter flights to bring home illegal immigrants as part of a government crackdown in recent months. The tightening of immigration laws in 1993 has left many immigrants in a legal limbo, outlawing some who were previously living in France legally.

The center-right government, backed by a court opinion that none of the Africans in the church had an automatic right to stay in France, has said about 30 or 40 percent of the protesters would qualify for residence permits.

French left-wing opposition parties have accused Prime Minister Alain Juppe of cynically courting the anti-immigrant National Front, with an eye on 1998 general elections. (Reuters)

Mother Teresa battles for life

News agencies
CALCUTTA

MOTHER Teresa, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for her ministering to the poorest of the poor, yesterday battled for her life against malaria and a faltering heart as Roman Catholics around the world prayed for her survival.

"She is showing enormous strength given her age, which has surprised all of us," Dr S.K. Sen, medical director at Calcutta's Woodlands Nursing Home, told reporters. Mother Teresa's 86th birthday is next Tuesday.

The Roman Catholic nun suffered heart failure Friday and could breathe only with the aid of a respirator, doctors said.

"Her condition has deteriorated since Friday morning," said Dr. Sen but added there had been no significant complications yesterday. But he said Mother Teresa, winner of 1979 Nobel Peace Prize and known as the Saint of the Ghetto, was unable to speak and her heart continued to falter.

"It is worrisome," he said. "It is still serious. Her condition is still unchanged. She is conscious. Her cardiac condition remains unstable."

Bishop Henry D'Souza of Calcutta said: "We hope that she survives. It is difficult to say. It depends now on God."

A medical bulletin released by the hospital

said Mother Teresa was being treated with antibiotics for a chest infection.

"She continues to have respiratory support. She is not able to speak. She is just making gestures. We are keeping strict vigilance around the clock," Sen said.

"We tried to take her out off the respirator yesterday but we failed. We would like to wean her out of it later today."

Doctors were giving Mother Teresa an anticoagulant to ease the flow of blood through her left ventricle, one of the four chambers of the heart, which failed on Friday. Her temperature was still 38C and she was receiving anti-malaria drugs.

At a chapel just a few km away, 200 nuns in the familiar blue-trimmed white habit knelt at dawn yesterday to pray for the woman who founded their order. About 100 young boys and girls of all faiths from an orphanage run by Mother Teresa sang Christian hymns, kneeling before a large crucifix.

Regarded as a living saint for her work among the dying and the destitute, Mother Teresa was admitted to the hospital Tuesday

with a malarial fever. Doctors put her on the respirator when her heart stopped beating for nearly a minute. She was revived with electric shocks. Doctors said complications from her malaria brought on the heart attack.

At a separate service earlier Friday at one of Mother Teresa's convents in Calcutta, more than two dozen nuns clad blue-trimmed white saris of her order knelt in rows to pray in a barren white hall.

In silent vigil, the nuns faced a large crucifix and a row of tiny flickering candles. Only strands of sunlight filtered into the room, darkened for the prayer ceremony.

On a large chalkboard outside the convent, the nuns had written, "Please pray for our Mother."

Despite her age and fragile health, Mother Teresa has maintained a grueling pace at her missions and orphanages in India and abroad. She suffered a heart attack in 1983 during a meeting with Pope John Paul II in Rome. In 1989, she suffered a second, stronger, heart attack, and received a pacemaker.

Teresa's name has become synonymous with charity. She created a network of homes for poor people, from the hovels of Calcutta to the ghettos of New York and the slums of Albania.

Clinton declares tobacco addictive drug

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an election-year assault on the tobacco industry, President Clinton unveiled on Friday new government regulations that declare nicotine an addictive drug and impose strict limits on tobacco use by minors.

"This epidemic is no accident," he said. Flanked by youths dressed in bright red T-shirts that read, "Tobacco-free kid," the president pledged: "Today we are taking direct action to protect our children from tobacco — and especially the advertising that hooks children on a product."

The emotional ceremony in the White House rose garden was designed to arm Clinton with a potent political weapon against Republican rival Bob Dole, who has expressed reservation about regulating tobacco.

"With this action, the president in essence has accepted the FDA's determination that cigarettes and smokeless tobacco are delivery devices for the drug nicotine," press secretary Mike McCurry said.

The Food and Drug Administration regulations, as expected, closely resemble Clinton's 1995 proposal to regulate tobacco advertising, sales and access aimed at minors, McCurry said. Clinton gave his final blessing Thursday, he said.

In its proposed regulations, the FDA had identified nicotine as an

addictive drug, thus giving the agency the authority to control its sale and distribution. Clinton's action endorsed the proposed regulations, including the drug determination for nicotine.

Clinton's proposals would: — Require the tobacco industry to fund a \$150 million education campaign to stop kids from smoking, with a major emphasis on television public service spots. Aides did not say whether the provision was amended by the FDA.

— Forbid brand-name sponsorship of sporting events and brandname advertising on products like hats and T-shirts that are not related to tobacco use.

The action means: — No more three-dimensional Joe Camel ads offering free concert tickets in magazines like *Rolling Stone* that are read by thousands of teenagers. The only cigarette ads that could appear in such magazines would be black-and-white, text-only. — No more cigarette billboards within 1,000 feet of schools — or pictures on any billboards, like the *Marlboro Man* who rides beside the nation's interstate.

The FDA aims, within seven years, to cut in half teen-age smoking, through far-reaching restrictions designed to snuff tobacco's appeal as sexy and fun, as well as its availability to minors.

Moslem villagers help stranded Hindu pilgrims

SRINAGAR (Reuters) — Muslim villagers yesterday came to the aid of Hindu pilgrims stranded by heavy snow and driving rain on a rugged Himalayan route after 96 people died from exposure, Indian officials said.

Thousands of devout Hindus began an annual trek to the Amarnath cave last week to worship a stalagmite believed to be the manifestation of the phallus of the Hindu god Shiva. But the procession was hit by heavy rain and snow.

Among the dead were many naked "sadhus", or Hindu holy men who smear their bodies with ash.

"The main reason for these deaths is the pilgrims did not have warm clothing. Most of the holy men who died were trekking naked," said Asrar Ahmad, a doctor at Anantnag pilgrim camp, 50 km south of Srinagar.

Rescue attempts were hindered by bad weather on the approach to the cave 3,880 meters high in the Himalayas.

"Due to torrential rains and snowfall the helicopters with rescue teams could not land at any place in the region," said K.B. Jandial, spokesman for Jammu and Kashmir state government.

But he has reports that local villagers are helping more and

more pilgrims to trek down from high altitude areas," he said. Army officials said they were providing shelter and aid to nearly 40,000 pilgrims at army camps set up along the route.

"We have distributed thousands of food packets," said Lt-Col Anil Bhatt, a public relations officer in New Delhi. "Eight army mobile hospitals are busy treating the trekkers for exposure."

Bhatt said army personnel escorted the trekkers down the slopes, carrying the ill and injured through pouring rain.

An official statement said thousands of trekkers stranded in the upper reaches had safely made their way down to Pahalgam town, the base camp for the trek.

"Villagers are taking the pilgrims into their homes, giving them food and blankets and warm clothing," said senior police official A.K. Suri, who flew over the area in a helicopter yesterday but was unable to land because of the poor weather.

Over 112,000 Hindus had come to Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Moslem-majority state.

Scheduled to end on Wednesday, the trek was suspended until weather conditions improved. The cave's entrance was deep in 33 cm of snow, a weather department official said.

Notice to Single-Parent Families About Tuition Grants for the 1996/97 (5757) School Year

National Insurance Institute



Today, Sunday, August 26, 1996, the National Insurance Institute will be paying a tuition grant for the 1996/97 (5757) school year to those single-parent families entitled to child allowances. The grant will be paid for every child born during the period between December 17, 1982 and December 17, 1990 (ages 6-14).



SIZE OF GRANT

- For children born during the period between December 13, 1985 and December 17, 1990 - 18% of the average tuition (NIS 880 per child)
- For children born during the period between December 17, 1982 and December 12, 1985 - 10% of the average tuition (NIS 489 per child)

DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR UNMARRIED PARENTS

If the data regarding your family status is known to the NII, the grant will be paid directly to your bank account.

A PARENT LIVING SEPARATE FROM HER/HIS SPOUSE

You are requested not to contact the branches of the NII before determining whether the grant has been deposited in your account.

You are entitled to the grant only if you meet one of the following criteria:

- Have not lived under the same roof as your spouse for at least two years and have initiated legal proceedings to free yourself of the marriage bond, and have been within this framework for at least two years.
- Are an abandoned wife
- A new immigrant who has been in Israel for at least one year and less than two years, and your spouse has not immigrated to Israel and is not staying there.

Anyone who considers themselves entitled to this grant under the terms specified above should contact the branch of the National Insurance Institute closest to their home, and submit a request for the grant, together with documents attesting to their status.

THOSE RECEIVING GUARANTEED INCOME STIPENDS SEPARATE FROM THEIR SPOUSE

The grant will be paid directly into your bank account by September 20, 1996. You are requested not to contact the branches of the NII before determining whether the grant has been deposited in your account.

An Open Line concerning the grant will be available today and tomorrow, August 25-26, 1996, between the hours of 3 - 6 p.m.

Please phone:
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How to tell your children 'I have cancer'

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

NOBODY — absolutely nobody — would want to read this 16-page, Hebrew-language booklet. But if harmful habits, bad genes, environmental dangers or fate cause their mischief on the body, reading this booklet would be of invaluable assistance.

Called *Ma Asaper Li'Yeladei al Mahalat Ha'Sartan Shefti (What Will I Tell My Children About My Cancer)*, the handbook is being distributed free by the Israel Cancer Association (ICA). A team of oncological social workers, headed by Shlomit Perry of the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus in Petah Tikva, wrote and edited the material after using American Cancer Society information materials as a starting point. The entire team, including the graphic artist who drew the illustrations, worked on the project as unpaid volunteers. There has been such a demand for the booklet, according to ICA director-general Miri Ziv, that it has already gone into second printing, even though the association hasn't even formally begun to promote its distribution.

A diagnosis of cancer in a parent is very difficult not only for the patient himself but for the whole family, especially children. They are used to much attention, time and energy, and when the situation suddenly changes, their fears come to the surface. The parent may need to undergo extensive tests and treatments, some of which may change the way he looks and functions and require a period of hospitalization. But some parents in this position may want to hide the problem, thinking that keeping cancer secret, protects the children from pain and worry.

The social workers, who have much experience in dealing with such cases, advise against this policy. "It is very important to base a family relationship on honest and open communications. An explanation that is suited to a child's age, understanding and emotional

development will help him better to deal with the new situation in a way that suits him," they advise. The advice in the booklet is apt for explaining a parent's illness to children as young as three and up to the age of 18, says Perry. It can also easily be used to explain cancer — or even another serious illness diagnosed in a grandparent.

"We decided to stress the importance of communication between parent and child and not provide dry information about the disease itself," explains Perry, who has worked at Beilinson for 19 years and wrote her master's degree at Tel Aviv University on family coping with cancer. Attitudes towards cancer have changed much to those nearly two decades, she says. "Cancer used to be a dirty word. It was referred to as a 'growth' or an 'inflammation.' The literature then was solely about helping cancer patients to face death. But today, thanks to greater openness cultivated by the media, as well as by more successful treatments — cancer can be discussed in the family more easily." The social worker notes with irony that even today, the Beilinson oncology department is called the "Institute for Deep Healing."

WHY IS IT important for the parent to disclose his illness to the child? The authors note that children "feel when something is wrong, or when there are changes in the family. Keeping secrets from them may lead to the development of fears and imagined thoughts that may be more threatening and serious than reality itself." In addition, since cancer is not a death sentence but can be overcome in many cases, refraining from talking about it makes cancer a frightening, incomprehensible topic. Children may hear about a parent's illness from other people or by putting two and two together. This could lead to anger about having been kept in the dark

or, misconceptions.

The child, for example, knows that his grandfather died in the hospital. If his father has to be hospitalized too, he is certain that he is going to die there as well. Or, the child says Mom asked us to be quiet in the afternoon so she can sleep and get stronger. Now Mom feels bad; she's sick and has no energy. She's ill because we didn't let her rest. Children have an amazing ability to cope with the truth, and it can even be easier to deal with than uncertainty, says Perry.

Advising the patient what to tell his child, the authors say that it's permissible to cry as you pass on the message. "One can be confused and emotional. You can consult with professionals and even practice what you want to tell them. Both parents should tell the child together, but a relative or a professional could be present when the children are told, if the patient needs the support."

Children should be told only when there is a clear diagnosis. It's important to update them when a new treatment is being started, including side effects, so the youngsters will know what to expect. "It's vital that the child knows his basic needs will be fulfilled even if changes occur in family life," notes Perry. Children should be told in language that is suited to their ages and abilities. "Give them the feeling of optimism, even though you're not sure there will be better days. Give them the feeling that you'll still love them and take care of them despite the illness. Explain the difference between *sartan* (which means crab in Hebrew) and the word for cancer; stress that there is no connection between them. Talk to them about their feelings, and not just about facts. Listen to them to hear how they are coping with the news," she advises.

Parents should not lie to the child (although they can decide not to detail the whole truth, thus

it is permissible to present themselves as more optimistic than they feel." Don't overburden them with frightening and needless medical statistics and details. Don't be afraid to tell them: "I don't know." Younger children can be encouraged to act out their feelings with drawings or puppets. Since changes and worry may make younger children regress to bedwetting, sleepless nights, snoring and aggressiveness, inform their schoolteacher or kindergarten teacher if this occurs.

Teenage children, who are already going through major emotional changes and seek independence, may make the cows badly, developing a conflict with the healthy and/or the sick parent. The parent may need to depend on the teenager for support at a time when the youngster is seeking independence. If any such problems appear, it may be best to consult with a school psychologist or guidance counselor.

If the parent is admitted to hospital, the child may visit him outside or in the cafeteria. Interest him in elevators, beds that go up and down, even medical instruments. The child should be allowed to speak to the parent by telephone. Have the children participate in preparing a big welcome when the parent comes home.

The authors conclude optimistically that those parents who recover from cancer may find an improved family life as a result of overcoming the disease together. "People build new priorities and appreciate things differently," they explain. This can benefit the child and help him become more responsible and sensitive to others' needs.

Copies can be obtained by calling the ICA's Telemated number, 03-571-7888, or by asking at hospital oncology departments. One can ask for the original English-language version from the American Cancer Society; the booklet will eventually be translated into Arabic and Russian.

Understanding Ethiopians through 'cultural diseases'

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

WALKING alone can cause epilepsy, urinating on a sunny day can result in a spontaneous abortion, and a bat or bird flying above one's head may end in a bout of hepatitis. These are some of the traditional beliefs about diseases that are commonly held in Ethiopia and are common conceptions among Ethiopian Jewish immigrants as well — according to a study conducted among olim shortly before they flew to Israel.

The latest issue of the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences* reports on the study, conducted four years ago by Dr. Befekado Teferegedie, a trained Ethiopian physician, and Dr. Richard Hodes, medical director for the American Joint Distribution Committee, at Addis Ababa. The researchers interviewed 33 Jews from seven districts in Gondar province temporarily living at the transit camp in Tedda in the Gondar. Ranging in age from 18 to 68, they gave the definition and cause of 13 medical disorders and Ethiopian "cultural diseases", as well as their individual experiences with the condition and recommendations for treatment. Their answers are fascinating — and a key to understanding of the cultural gap between veteran Israelis and the Ethiopian newcomers over matters of health.

Hodes and Teferegedie say it is "essential that health educators, both in Israel and Ethiopia, understand Ethiopian traditional beliefs and practices when attempting to introduce new concepts of health and disease as well as preventive practices to this community." They add that there is no evidence that the concepts of health and disease as expressed by Ethiopian Jews are different from those of their non-Jewish neighbors or other Ethiopian highlanders. "In Israel, however, this community's beliefs and practices are quite unique to their culture and are a source of misunderstanding between Ethiopian immigrants and Israelis."

How cultural beliefs can cause trouble between the Ethiopian immigrants and Israeli society was

demonstrated earlier this year when a Hebrew newspaper disclosed that blood donated by Ethiopian immigrant soldiers to Magen David Adom had been discarded without informing them because of the relatively high risk of HIV in the community. The fact that the Amharic word for blood has a spiritual connotation only magnified the community's feeling of degradation due to the affair.

THE WESTERN medical concepts discussed with them in the transit camps were epilepsy, prolonged labor, abortion, sexually transmitted disease, malaria, spleenomegaly (enlarged spleen), hepatitis and diarrhea; the five topics unique to the Ethiopian concept of health and disease were *birrd*, *wugat*, *moygnabegen*, *mitch* and *antint hono kere*.

Birrd, which literally means "cold," implies pain in the chest and may include chills. It may be a disease or a cause of disease, which appears when the weather turns cold or when the person is exposed to strong winds, the researchers explain. *Wugat* is understood as a repeated or chronic stabbing pain in the chest with no connection to a cough or fever. Anything from hot weather and overworking to undressing in the midday sun were blamed for this *Moygnabegen* (literally "if I get a fool") was defined variously by the Ethiopian Jews as headache, fever, stiff neck, abdominal cramps and palpitations. One would get this unpronounceable condition from the sun causing blood to boil, exposure to noxious vapors or sleeping uncomfortably.

Mitch was regarded as an acute attack of fever, chills, headache and generalized aches and pains and due to exposure to the sun after cooking or while oiled. *Antint hono kere* (meaning "it remains bone") referred to an abdominal mass that halted menstruation due to a fetus that turned to "bone" or "stone" in the uterus.

Evil spirits, attending a funeral or sitting on hot ground were among the perceived causes for this.

The researchers report that in a sun-drenched country like Ethiopia, residents often blamed exposure to the sun for various diseases. Too much sun could be the reason for abnormal labor, a spontaneous abortion and three of the Ethiopian cultural conditions. Epilepsy, the most common neurological condition in Ethiopia, was commonly believed to be infectious: a person contracted it, they said, merely by touching someone during an attack. A previous survey found that three-quarters of Ethiopians questioned would refuse to give an epileptic a job, and only a quarter would allow a relative to marry one.

Evil spirits had to be fought in order to have an easy delivery of a healthy baby, the Jews believed. Those prayers and other ceremonies were used to help the good spirits overcome the bad. Sexually transmitted diseases, such as gonorrhea, were believed to come out from having sex with an infected person, but from urinating in the same place a dog urinates, touching a female dog or urinating under a full moon. Traditional Ethiopian cures for syphilis include having multiple sexual partners to "weaken" the disease, drinking one's own urine or washing the lesions with goat's blood.

Diarrhea is a very common condition among young children in Ethiopia; a previous study found that about one-eighth of those from birth to four years suffered from it at any given time. The condition was most often attributed to the "will of God," poor sanitation or sorcery. Only a quarter of the mothers used oral-rehydration therapy to treat diarrhea, while half of them didn't seek medical care for children suffering from this potentially dangerous condition. Another study of women in Gondar villages found that nearly 85% thought pulling out baby teeth was useful in treating diarrhea, and 70% of all children had undergone this procedure.

Keep away from the keyboard at times

ARE there any exercises one can do to prevent or relieve carpal tunnel syndrome? I type a lot on the computer and fear getting this problem. O.P., Efrat

Dr. Michael Soudry, chief of orthopedics at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus in Petah Tikva, comments:

Carpal tunnel syndrome is due to inflammation or swelling of the tunnel through which the median nerve passes in the wrist. This condition can be triggered by repeated bending at a sharp angle or by a narrowing (stenosis) of the tunnel.

Working for long periods on a computer can aggravate this problem, and indeed, there seem to be more complaints about wrist and hand pains since the wide use of computers at work and at home began. But, there are other causes as well, and wrist and hand pains may be due to inflammation or thickening of the carpal tunnel, but to improper posture while sitting at the computer and resulting pain in the neck and shoulders. Always work on the keyboard when it is at elbow height, and the monitor should be at the height of the eyes, which look straight ahead and not upwards or downwards.

I know of no specific exercises to prevent carpal tunnel syndrome, but one is best advised to take breaks from time to time, get out of your chair and move around, and even shake your hands. If you do suffer from pains,

Rx FOR READERS POST HEALTH REPORTER

go to a specialist for a clinical exam, diagnosis and EMG test (electrical examination of nerve function). You may have to reduce the number of hours you type. Among the possible treatments are injections of drugs, acupuncture or, if nothing else helps, an operation.

Is it true that chocolate interferes with the absorption of calcium? If so, then maybe it's not a good idea to give chocolate milk or chocolate dairy desserts to young children. Also, if I put milk in my hot or cold coffee, is all the calcium from the milk lost? M.D.R., Haifa

Liora Hubara, a dietitian at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, replies:

It's true, chocolate does interfere with calcium absorption; all the calcium is not lost, but one does absorb less of the calcium from a chocolate-flavored dairy product than from plain yogurt or lemon. It is better without chocolate, but children are not so easily persuaded.

As for milk in hot or cold coffee, some of the calcium is lost, and the same is true of hot or cold tea. Calcium absorption is reduced by substances in these beverages, even when not in the same glass, but in the same meal.

I regularly eat avocado in salads. But I heard it contains a lot of fat, which could be harmful if one has elevated cholesterol. Should I forgo avocado? E.E., Jerusalem

Liora Hubara answers this one too: Avocado has a lot of fat, but it is monounsaturated fat, which, in the proper amounts, is recommended for people with high blood cholesterol levels. However, you must not overdo it, as not only the type of fat but the amount of fat affects blood cholesterol.

Thus I recommend that you eat no more than a quarter of an avocado per day. Olive oil, for example, is the same type of monounsaturated fat, so if you eat this too, you will have to calculate how much of it you eat daily and avoid overdoing it. If you are overweight, any type of fat will make you gain weight, which is not good for our cardiovascular system.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page. Write Rx For Readers, c/o Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. fax to 02-5389527 or e-mail to jwise@jpost.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.

Dead Sea mineral smooths out wrinkles

HEALTH SCAN
POST HEALTH REPORTER

A liquid gel enriched with a natural Dead Sea mineral complex has been found superior to 45 leading cosmetic products in smoothing the skin's surface and reducing wrinkle depth and skin roughness. This was shown in tests carried out by the research and development department of the Dead Sea Laboratories at Mitzpe Shalem, along with the Dead Sea Medical Research Center at Neve Zohar and the Hebrew University's Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry. Their report was published in the July supplement of the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*, which was dedicated totally to the therapeutic and economic potential of the Dead Sea.

The researchers noted that the cosmetics industry based on Dead Sea minerals goes back to the first Century BCE, when Cleopatra gained exclusive rights to the minerals and ordered the building of cosmetic and pharmaceutical factories. Their remnants can still be seen along the salty lake's shores.

The gel that was tested was enriched with a mineral complex called Osmoter. Applied daily for a month to the faces of 20 female volunteers aged 20 to 65, the gel's effects were tested scientifically by using a laser system to measure wrinkle depth before and after. "The results were very encouraging," the researchers said. Another gel that served as a control reduced wrinkle depth by

11 percent, while the Dead Sea anti-wrinkle gel cut wrinkle depth by 27 percent.

The researchers concluded that advanced technical and scientific support for marketing claims of cosmetics will ensure the reliability and safety of these products. By conducting performance tests and exploring the physiological factors behind the "undeniable" skin-improving capabilities of Dead Sea cosmetics, researchers will be able to use a relatively higher concentration of minerals in their products. Additional studies, they said, are needed to determine the optimal concentration of each specific ion in skin cells, what concentrations may be irritating or toxic to the skin, and what are the optimal delivery systems for the various ions.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Injuries are the most common cause of death in children — considerably ahead of cancer and congenital defects. Of all injuries in youngsters aged one to 14, a third of them are due to road accidents and the rest to accidents in or near the home: falls, burns, drownings and other trauma. In the 15- to 24-year-old group, 80 percent of deaths are due to accidents. For every child killed, there are six more who remain permanently disabled.

These sad statistics were provided in the latest issue of *Merkanon Livvur* published by the Israel Pharmacists Association. The only "cure" is prevention, says Prof. Shmuel Katz, who heads the pediatric surgery department at Meir

Hospital in Kfar Sava. Most of these events could have been prevented if someone had given thought to the dangers. Every year, 100,000 children are brought to hospital emergency rooms for treatment for injuries, and about 12,000 of them are admitted to the wards.

Katz urges parents to repeat, from a young age and in a way suited to the child, how to avoid accidents. Those who ride bicycles or use skates or rollerblades should wear suitable protective helmets. Make sure they play in safe places. Keep poisonous and combustible substances, sharp objects and matches locked away. Always keep children buckled up in seatbelts and carseats in moving vehicles. Never leave a child unsupervised in a parked car. "Accidents don't just happen; they are caused by a known factor," says Katz. The better you educate yourself and your children to foresee accidents, the safer they will be.

AT A LOSS

Israelis lost a total of seven million kilos during the past three years and spent NIS 100 million on diets in 1995. A third of the entire adult Jewish population went on a diet during the past three years, and 16% are on a diet now. These are among the results of a poll conducted by the Geocartography Institute for the Israel Consumer Council.

The majority of the representative sample of 508 adults said they went on a diet without consulting with an expert, while 10 percent

went to a registered dietitian and 11.4 percent consulted with a doctor. Others went to Weight Watchers or various commercial diet firms. About a third of those who went on a diet bought special products claimed to promote weight loss. Four out of 10 stuck to their diet for three to five months; nearly a quarter lasted six months to a year, while a third stuck to it for over 18 months.

OUT, DAMNED STING

If you have a nasty encounter with a bee, get the stinger out of your skin as quickly as possible, no matter how, according to two Californian scientists who made the ultimate sacrifice by getting stung in the interest of science.

To get stung, Richard Vetter and Kirk Visscher of the University of California at Riverside "collected a worker honey bee as she flew from her hive, grasped her by the wings and pressed her against the skin" until they felt a prick. They did so 20 times each. According to a recent issue of *The Lancet*, they tried pinching the stinger out with fingers and forceps and scraping it out with a knife blade or credit card.

A colleague measured the size of the weals that appeared 10 minutes later: there was no difference in the size, whatever the method used to remove the stinger. After leaving the stinger in for a more protracted period, they found that the looper it remained in the skin, the worse the reaction. Therefore, fast removal is a good idea.

Bees killed 17 Americans last year. The stinger imbeds in the



Not only is Dead Sea mud good for the skin but so is a mineral complex that smooths it out. (R. Nowitz)



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Byzantine Kremlin sues for peace

AMID mysterious goings-on in Moscow reminiscent of the secretive old Soviet Kremlin days, it seems that at last a resolution of the war in Chechnya may be emerging. Negotiated by the new Russian strongman Alexander Lebed, these negotiations have a ring of seriousness about them, unlike the hasty and patently fake electioneering "settlement" President Boris Yeltsin cobbled together in advance of the presidential election.

The world has remained remarkably quiet about the Chechen war despite the devastation and human cost, equalled in recent times only by the conflict in Bosnia. The rising violence of the last few weeks against the unfortunate civilians of Grozny must be deplored by any standards and, as the tide of refugees out of the battered capital Grozny swelled again, the news that negotiations had been resumed and a cease-fire agreed upon was doubly welcome.

There remain lurking doubts that the cease-fire may have been a mere tactical maneuver by the Chechen rebels after the Russian military high command threatened to flatten Grozny. With Yeltsin's virtual disappearance from the scene, reports of his criticism of Lebed and the row between Lebed and the military over the threats of an all-out Russian offensive, it has become difficult to fathom exactly what is going on behind the Kremlin walls and whether the confusing developments hint of a serious power struggle among Russia's volatile leaders.

Lebed sneeringly dismissed the Russian military's ultimatum to the Chechens last week to leave Grozny or be carpet-bombed as a "bad joke." Yet it is far from certain that the joke was not Lebed's own, or his boss's. Defense Minister Igor Rodionov, a Lebed protégé, said the army commander in Chechnya, Konstantin Pulikovskiy, had been called on the carpet for making the military ultimatum. Yet Pulikovskiy is still in his post and his superior, Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, who backed his belligerent statements, has not been reprimanded.

The defense minister's statement that someone had "provoked Pulikovskiy" gives a hint that Lebed and his supporters may be using the Chechen conflict as a stick to beat out their enemies in the Kremlin. Last week, he said Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov should be fired for letting Grozny fall so easily to the rebels. Such charges fit the pattern Lebed has established after only two months in the Kremlin — he has openly accused highly-placed figures of war profiteering in Chechnya, just as he swiftly got rid of his only rival, Pavel Grachev, and other hawks from the defense ministry.

Yet, last week also, Yeltsin himself ordered that the situation in Grozny was to be restored to that of August 5 — the day before the rebels launched their surprise assault and captured large sectors of the city from the Russians. Given such a command, the controversial military ultimatum could therefore be seen as an order to the troops to execute the president's decree. If he were not such a tough and formidable politician, Lebed could well be seen as a mere "fall guy," taking on politically dangerous tasks the president would like to distance himself from. Lebed's role appears contradictory — Yeltsin ordered him to bring peace to Chechnya, and to be quick about it. But he was also ordered to restore the situation to that of August 5, meaning Russian control of Grozny. What he is really being asked to do is save some presidential and military faces in Moscow for the humiliating defeat the Russians suffered on August 6, while trying to sell the Russian people a peace that is "real" and not merely a climb-down.

Tough as he is, Lebed's future is by no means secure. Yeltsin may be ill and seldom around, but Lebed would be making a serious mistake if he underestimates the power of the wily president, who has proven to be one of Russia's great survivors.

Lebed may well clash with Yeltsin over the nature of the peace he is negotiating. A military cease-fire rushed through after a Russian defeat may be hard enough to swallow, but Lebed's belief that Chechnya should be allowed to have its independence is likely to stick in many senior throats in Moscow. It may leave Lebed open to the dangerous accusation that, following Mikhail Gorbachev's dissolution of the Soviet Union, Lebed is now bent on breaking up the Russian Federation. Many Russian politicians and a large number of Russian people regard the federation in the same way Americans regard the United States — an entity where secession is absolutely unthinkable.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said yesterday that the Kremlin position at the Chechnya talks was masterminded by Yeltsin. This raises the intriguing possibility that Lebed may indeed end up as the sacrificial lamb to be slaughtered for implementing a Yeltsin-U-turn on independence. Lebed has already proposed to the rebels a five-year cooling-off and reconstruction period, tied to a promise to then tackle their aspirations for independence.

Yet amid all the Kremlin intrigue, it is easy to forget the sufferings of the tens of thousands of bereaved and homeless Chechens living in the squalid misery of their destroyed towns, villages and capital city. If a solid peace can now be hammered out, some lost face, or even some lost heads, in the Kremlin will be a small price to pay for restoring hope to those shattered lives in the war zone.



A decade of silence

I have never met the man. I think what he did was wrong. And I know the state had no choice but to bring him to trial. All this said, I am very uneasy with the idea that a man — Mordechai Vanunu — has been in solitary confinement for a whole decade. In my country. In a democracy.

When I was a teenager and a student, my two heroes were Anatoly (Natan) Sharansky and Nelson Mandela. Both were then in prison, suffering from a deep moral belief that went against the policy and law of the respective regimes they lived under. Both were prisoners of conscience. I campaigned for them both, participated in demonstrations and wrote letters and articles. I cried, unashamedly, when I saw Sharansky step down from the plane that brought him home to Israel and I remember the "high" I felt when I heard that Mandela had been released.

There are fundamental differences between Vanunu and these two leaders. Vanunu committed a crime against Israel and he has to pay the price. But 10 years solitary confinement with another eight to go is more than enough. Why is he in solitary confinement?

We are told that Vanunu probably possesses more information about Israel's alleged nuclear potential and could leak it if allowed contact with other people. But we don't know the extent of his knowledge, his trial was so shrouded by the censor. It is difficult to determine that the information that he gave to the British *Sunday Times* really told the world anything new or whether this information actually hurt Israel's security.

What further damage can he do? How many facts does he still remember after 10 years in soli-

ALON SHALEV

tary confinement? And in this technological racetrack of a world, how relevant are they?

THERE ARE only two reasons why he is still in prison: Certain people in certain positions are scared he could talk about the way he was brought back to Israel for trial; how the trial was conducted; and whether the punishment truly fits the crime. The other reason is the fear of the authorities that his release would encourage a public debate on an issue about which they have

The authorities fear Vanunu's release would encourage a public debate on an issue they want to keep quiet

always tried to keep quiet.

This strikes at the fundamental principles of a democratic society. It is within the rights of a democratic government to withhold certain information from its citizens in the name of security, but to stifle debates about the right to have the bomb as a deterrent and if and when it can be used, is another matter. This can all be publicly debated without giving away secrets that could compromise our security and without the government ever needing to admit whether or not we even have a nuclear arsenal.

I am partly moved to raise my voice for Vanunu because of the conditions of his incarceration: 18

years solitary confinement in a cell three by two meters where the drain doubles as a shower and a lavatory. These are conditions Amnesty International describes as: "cruel, inhumane and degrading and a category of ill treatment one level below torture." And perhaps they are intended to help him forget whatever it was he knew.

But what most draws me to free Vanunu are his motives: a moral concern for the world and a genuine fear of the threat of nuclear war. I believe that he saw the money made from the *Sunday Times* as a realistic need to finance a new life for himself, but not as an overriding motivation.

Vanunu is essentially a prisoner of conscience, a term that is distinctly uncomfortable for those of us who campaigned for Soviet Jewry.

Vanunu cannot even be granted a presidential pardon. The criteria for such an action involves the prisoner regretting his crime and Vanunu believes that his actions were morally correct. His integrity will not allow him to renounce what he did, even for the price of freedom.

I keep having this wonderful dream that Israel signs a comprehensive peace treaty with the Arab world, that we are all going to live happily ever after, in a nuclear- and chemical-free Middle East. But increasingly there is an epilogue to my dream. It happens in another eight years. Vanunu is released, tells of his torturous sentence in the tones of a bygone prophet, takes credit for forcing our adversaries to accept that they possess no military option and therefore must sue for peace. And suddenly my dream goes wrong. My stomach churns. For I kept silent.

The writer is a kibbutnik.

The King and US

JAY BUSHINSKY

Gone forever are the days when taxis, buses and trucks in this traffic-clogged Arab capital — Amman — were adorned with portraits of Iraq's now-disreputable President Saddam Hussein.

No longer does the Iraqi leader's evil leer appear alongside the winning smile and twinkling eyes of his royal namesake, King Hussein.

The Jordanian monarch has risked his throne and endangered his kingdom's fragile economy by transforming his realm into a springboard for his erstwhile friend's overthrow.

Predictably, the Iraqi tyrant and his unscrupulous agents deployed throughout the Arab world were accused by the king of fomenting the most violent anti-government riots this country has experienced since 1989.

A 100-percent increase in the price of bread was the empirical reason for the violence that erupted in Kerak. Ma'an and other cities whose inhabitants traditionally are fanatically loyal to the "Beduin king." But the 10 days that elapsed from the decision to comply with the World Bank's call for a sharp reduction in subsidies to the actual price rises allowed sufficient time for professional agitators to fan the flames of popular dissension.

It is well known here and abroad that major elements of the Iraqi opposition, notably the Iraqi National Accord organization, are based in Amman. The Accord and other political foes of President Hussein use Amman as the transmission point for radio broadcasts the main theme of which is that the current Baghdad regime must be overthrown.

THIS POLITICAL warfare is being conducted in total disregard of Jordan's economic interests.

Local experts in the king-

The Jordanian monarch has risked his throne and country's economy to help overthrow his erstwhile friend and namesake

dom's international trade point out that 40 percent of it is with Iraq. Iraq is Jordan's biggest customer, not only in the Arab world, but also in the world beyond. Because of the UN embargo, Amman is the hub for travel to or from Iraq. There is no alternative to the desert highway between Baghdad and Amman if only because international air carriers no longer service the Iraqi capital.

King Hussein evidently believes he has much more to gain by aligning himself with Saddam's enemies rather than opting for neutrality or tacit amity. This would explain his recent trip to Saudi Arabia to confer with King Fahd. The Saudis had suspended their economic aid and stopped their oil supply to Jordan because of its neutral stance during the Gulf War.

A royal Arab summit consisting of Kings Fahd and Hussein had been unthinkable for the past six years.

US APPRECIATION of Jordan's change of heart may also have been one of King Hussein's key considerations. It enables him to count on the US for ongoing economic and military assistance.

In the long run, the inevitable fall of Saddam Hussein's totalitarian regime and its hoped-for replacement by a relatively democratic leadership might be a boon to the Middle East peace process in which the US and Israel are especially interested.

Saddam's successors not only will not bear the guilt of firing Scud missiles at civilian targets in Riyadh and Tel Aviv, but they also may have no qualms about helping reorganize the Middle East on the basis of economic cooperation and military detente.

That probably is King Hussein's ultimate calculation. His track record as a very savvy survivor whose reign has overcome political intrigue, assassination attempts and military onslaughts, should suffice to suggest that he still is heading in the right direction.

The writer is with the Chicago-Sun Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Sir, — In the post-agricultural society foreseen by Roger Kaye ("Drop the waste of water," August 17), parks irrigated by high-tech systems will replace useless things like potatoes, onions, oranges and sunflower seeds. We will leave the other hundred essential plants made obsolete out of the equation for brevity's sake. All that lowly stuff will be grown in Turkey, anyway. Our railroads will be in Egypt à la Peres, our airports in Jordan.

We will all live in villas and penthouses among manicured lawns with no sweating in the fields, no back-breaking labor of picking, packing and sorting, no getting up at 4 in the morning to milk the cows (we will import all our dairy products from Europe). We farmers will be out of work. Instead of growing food, we will be on the dole, put out to pasture by the post-agricultural society.

What's wrong with this picture? First of all, it takes a complete ignoramus to sneer at \$591 million in exports from a country the size of San Bernardino county (Calif.) with so little arable land that it is not mentioned in the agricultural atlas.

Second, Mr. Kaye came by his interesting figures by comparing the industrial exports of 1994 with the agricultural exports of 1996 (industrial exports were down this year), discounting along the way all the raw materials such as cotton, fruit, milk and grain which are used to

make many of the processed products sold by Israel. Incidentally, what does happen to the dairy industry without milk, the wine-makers without grapes and the textile industry without fibers?

Then he failed to mention the huge amount of Israeli produce which is consumed locally. Which is precisely why so much effort has gone into reclaiming land all the years of the Zionist enterprise. Because pre-(modern) agricultural Palestine suffered from a permanent food shortage despite its scarce population. He does not mention shipping and handling expenses of this food from afar, either. Importing every egg, liter of milk, cucumber and apple would soak up any surplus generated by our high-tech activities.

While self-sufficiency is impossible in the modern world, being dependent on other countries for all our food is dangerously stupid. Does it seem reasonable to take hard-won agricultural land out of production when the global population is likely to double in the next 30 years and commodities will become a seller's market?

This does not mean that Israeli agriculture cannot be improved with new crops that use less water. But nothing can replace the independence and strength conferred by the local production of essentials.

DR. E.M. SOLOWEY
Kibbutz Ketura.

HISTORY BOOK

Sir, — In a recent column, Abraham Rabinovich accused Mr. Netanyahu of trying "to fool history" by not facing political reality and accepting a Palestinian state as inevitable. What Mr. Rabinovich seems to have forgotten is that history is a poor guide where the Jewish people are concerned.

For example, history will tell you that a hundred-year-old man who has a barren wife and is childless is not going to have a family "as numerous as the stars in the heavens." History will tell you that a people trying to escape en masse from 400 years of slavery shouldn't expect the sea to part before it. History will tell you that an army marching around

an impenetrable walled city and blowing its trumpets won't make the walls fall down. And history will tell you that any people who has been without its homeland, language, and institutions for almost two millennia will never see its nation resurrected.

But that flawed view of history is based on the experience of nations who do not know or trust in the God of Israel. So my suggestion to Mr. Rabinovich is to throw away the history book he's been reading and pick up the Jewish history book. It will help him not get so nervous about Mr. Netanyahu's disregard for so-called current political realities.

BRIAN J. HENNESSY
Harleysville, Pa.

"LAND FOR PEACE"

Sir, — "Land for peace" is the swelling mantra coming from the Arab world, of which Egypt is one of its loudest proclaimers.

In the land-for-peace agreement between Israel and Egypt, the latter retrieved every last square inch of territory taken from it in 1967. This included a few hundred yards of beach at Tabá, the ownership of which was unclear and which had to be decided by international arbitration.

Ever since, Egypt has taken every opportunity to lambaste Israel for shortcomings — real or dreamed up by our enemies. Its president steadfastly refuses to come here and we are still not confident of its long-term intentions.

The full return of land has hardly brought a full peace. If this is the situation with "moderate" Egypt, what are we to expect from a similar deal with Syria?

OSCAR DAVIES
Jerusalem.

FIRE LEVY

Sir, — I remember the words of President Truman on a historic occasion: "I didn't fire General MacArthur because he was an SOB — although he was; I fired him because he did not respect the office of the President of the United States."

Change the words "General MacArthur" to "David Levy" and "President of the United States" to "Prime Minister of Israel" and you would have a very apt sentence for Mr. Netanyahu to pronounce!

JAIME GLOTTMANN
Ra'anana.

CAR PHONES

Sir, — According to existing rules, the use of portable phones whilst driving is strictly prohibited and offenders, if caught, are fined. Despite this, the number of drivers who disobey this rule is enormous. There is no doubt that this probably causes accidents. Maybe instead of financial fines, such offenders should have their driving licenses withdrawn.

PAUL KOLLEK
Jerusalem.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



If this bride expects her groom to fulfill the role of a father figure, he's in a lot of trouble. Her daddy happens to be the richest man in the world. She is Princess Hajjah Rashidah, 27, eldest daughter of Sultan Hassan al-Bolkiah of Brunei; she married her distant cousin Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim, 26, and as you can imagine, it was not a modest affair. A week of festivities began at the Istana Nurul

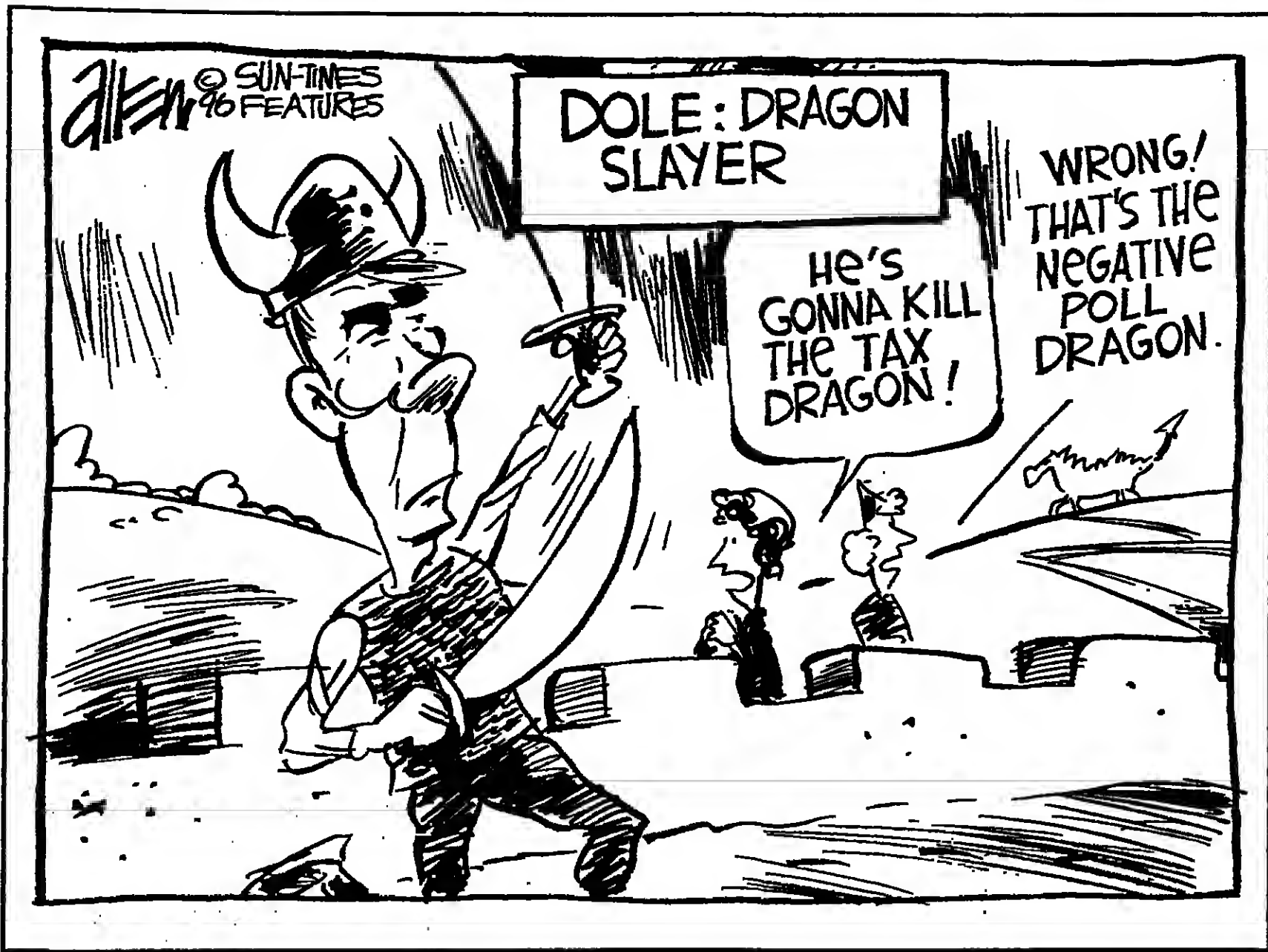
Iman Palace, the world's largest palace with a gold dome and 1,700 rooms. Later the happy couple rode in an open-decked gold-colored Rolls Royce. The two-week celebration ended yesterday with free concerts by Stevie Wonder and Whitney Houston. The sultan is worth \$40 billion, but it'll have to be shared around: he has 10 children and two wives. Anyway, mazal tov from all of us here.

(Reuters)

הכלה מן הלאכל

AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, August 25, 1996



Quarterback Sack

Hypocrisies, divisiveness at the Republican National Convention

BY MATTHEW COOPER

SAN DIEGO — Standing next to Ralph Reed on the Republican National Convention floor is like standing next to the young Paul McCartney at Heathrow Airport. He's bigger than God, a sex symbol in Brooks Brothers. When Reed is spotted near the Wisconsin delegation, the photographers and the admirers race over. It's a rugby scrum. Elbows shove. Arms reach. "We are with you, my friend," says a man in a Helen Chenoweth T-shirt, denoting his support for the gun-promoting, militia-condoning Idaho congresswoman. This adulation would delight any political boss.

Reed, though, has special reason to grin. He's gotten his Christmas-in-August: a right-to-life platform, a right-to-life nominee and now a right-to-life veep. How does Reed think the party should treat its newest resource? "They should not do (with Jack Kemp) what they did with Dan Quayle — send him to small media markets and safe areas. They should send him right out to battleground states, the inner city, everywhere."

The Dole resurrection has made Republicans crazy for Kemp.

Everywhere. This is a heady, expansive time for Republicans. The Dole resurrection has made Republicans crazy for Kemp. Right-wingers such as Gary Bauer say that "Kemp should not just be the ambassador to the right-to-life movement or minorities. He should go out to the entire country." Moderates such as Connecticut Congressman Christopher Shays want Kemp in their own states. "I want to win Bridgeport," Shays says of his state's grimey city.

The Kemp-spawned enthusiasm of the Republicans is, at times, laughable, comic. After all, this is still a party divided. Their hypocrisies are absurd. The party that opposes affirmative action has a veritable quota system for its platform speakers: The Indian medicine man reads the Pledge of Allegiance, the Greek Orthodox minister offers the benediction, the Hispanic Christian rocker croons "The Star-Spangled Banner." Bob Dole's life was saved by one of the

enemies of this convention, "government-run" health care. The party has not dissolved its differences. The Planet Hollywood Rock-the-Vote party, where sweaty, preppy blond Republicans gyrate to funk, is a world away from the right-to-life party at Sea World, where Phyllis Schlafly presided and the crowd began its session with the movement's hymn:

"God hears each infant voice, 'Let Him guide each mother's choice.'"

The Kemp selection hasn't erased these differences. But it's built a scaffolding over them. The one thing these delegates agree about may soon become the main topic of the election: taxes. Sure, Dole's born-again supply-side is craven — an embarrassing, Bush-like lurch to the right. So is Kemp's sudden opposition to affirmative action. But the tax issue is now where the Republicans want it: on the podium, in prime time, where it can change the election.

The White House knows this, even if the latest news has been encouraging. In recent days, the private, internal polling of Mark Penn has shown Dole's support growing slowly, with the president's "top line" support hovering comfortably above 50 percent. Penn's country-is-on-the-right-track/wrong-track numbers look especially good. Still, the White House knows that taxes are a huge weakness.

The Clinton campaign now needs a plan to deal with both Kemp and the new supply-side religion. At first, it stumbled. Ann Lewis' chirp that Kemp was an "extremist" backfired. So did the White House's Tsongas-like ts-k-tsking that the Dole-Kemp plan would expose the deficit; leave that to Dick Lamm, advisers quickly concluded. What will get traction, White House advisers pray, is the idea that Dole's tax cuts will exact a huge toll from Medicare and Medicaid. When N. Y. Sen. Al D'Amato told radio host Don Imus on the first day of the GOP convention that entitlement cuts would be needed to pay for Dole's tax cuts, the Clinton team got far happier. "Bob Dole won't say how to pay for his tax plan," says George Stephanopoulos. "Al D'Amato just did."

Kemp's selection is sure to alter White House campaign strategy. After months of assuming Vice President Al Gore would share the debate stage with a bland governor or a blah senator, administration operatives must now decide how to deal with an adversary who looks presidential. One thing the Dems are confident about is their convention, which, if all goes right, calls for a surprise

appearance by actor Christopher Reeve, to act to be as dramatic as his Academy Awards appearance when he was wheeled onto an empty stage.

As part of the Dick Morris-esque refusal to cede any issue to the Republicans, the White House will unveil new proposals to compete with the Dole plan. When the president takes a train trip to the Chicago convention, he'll make stops in Huntington, W.Va., Columbus, Ohio, and several stops in Michigan. The plan is to lay out a new Clinton proposal at each stop — a Head Start initiative in Ohio, more worker training in Michigan.

The party that opposes affirmative action has a veritable quota system for its platform speakers: The Indian medicine man reads the Pledge of Allegiance, the Greek Orthodox minister offers the benediction, the Hispanic Christian rocker croons 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'

One of the more effective gimmicks in San Diego was having speaker Kay Bailey Hutchison wave Clinton's 1992 *Putting People First* from the podium. The San Diego Republicans laughed at the book as a list of broken promises. But the irony was that Clinton didn't move left from his 1992 campaign bible; he moved right, away from Robert Reich's ideas of investment and training and toward modest deficit reduction and excise taxes. Now the Republicans have a clear, albeit flawed, plan for growth: cutting taxes. Clinton's reply is complex, nuanced, not nearly as simple as 1992's "putting people first" and not nearly as easy to sell as the Kempian cry of easy money. No wonder Ralph Reed is smiling.

Matthew Cooper is a senior editor of *The New Republic*, in which this article first appeared.

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Immortality: one reward of teaching

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

As I begin to prepare for my fall semester teaching assignments, a sense of profound joy comes over me. How fortunate I am to be able to help shape the minds, attitudes and ethics of yet another class of entering Harvard Law School students.

This will be my 33rd year of teaching at Harvard. Among my former students have been United States senators, Cabinet members, congresspersons, governors, attorneys general, judges, counsels to the president, leaders of the bar, corporate chief executives, professors, deans, leading political gurus, media pundits, writers, doctors, religious figures and men and women who have excelled in virtually every field of human endeavor. I have not yet had a president in my class. The closest I have come was having Liddy Dole as one of my earliest students.

When I first encountered these future leaders, they were freshmen with dreams, fears and uncertainties. I claim no credit for their success, though I am proud of each of them — even those former students who, on occasion, have bested their former professor in a legal argument. Many remain in touch with me, via an occasional phone call, a press clipping or a yearly note or holiday card. Some claim to have been influenced by my classes, though I attribute such praise largely to politeness. I do know that I have affected the lives of some, especially those who served as my research assistant and went on to practice criminal law. One prominent politician told me that my criminal-law course was the most important one he took in law school, despite the fact that he never practiced law. He explained that when he was once offered a large "loan," he remembered my class on entrapment and turned it down. He assured me he would have turned it down anyway, but my class discussion jumped immediately into his mind when the questionable loan was offered.

I wish our society would place a higher premium on elementary and high school teaching. Good teachers of young students are the true heroes. Poor teachers can be real villains.

In toy classes I devote more time to asking hard questions than providing simple answers, especially to the ethical and moral dilemmas about which lawyers properly obsess. A quarter of a century later, some students still remember the hypothetical problems — "hypos," they are called — which befuddled them and never seemed to have a good solution.

I try to teach my students how to think about legal and ethical issues. I do not want to change their political, religious or moral views — only to help prepare them to present and defend these views more effectively. My job is to teach advocacy and critical-thinking skills. When I hear a Bill Bennett argue his conservative philosophy so effectively, I take pride in the power of his presentation, while disagreeing with most of what he has to say.

I enjoy my teaching immensely. It is fun to get up in front of 150 brilliant students and lead the discussion into uncharted waters. I employ what is known as the "Socratic method" of teaching, though it might just as well be called the "Talmudic," "Jesuit" or "Confucian" method. It probes the students and demands of them that they participate in the search for answers and in the formulation of questions. Those who remember the film "The Paper Chase" may think that this method of teaching constitutes "cruel and unusual punishment." But most students enjoy this interactive way of learning, especially as contrasted with lectures read by the professor. Even more important, it is the best preparation for the rough-and-tumble life of an adversarial lawyer.

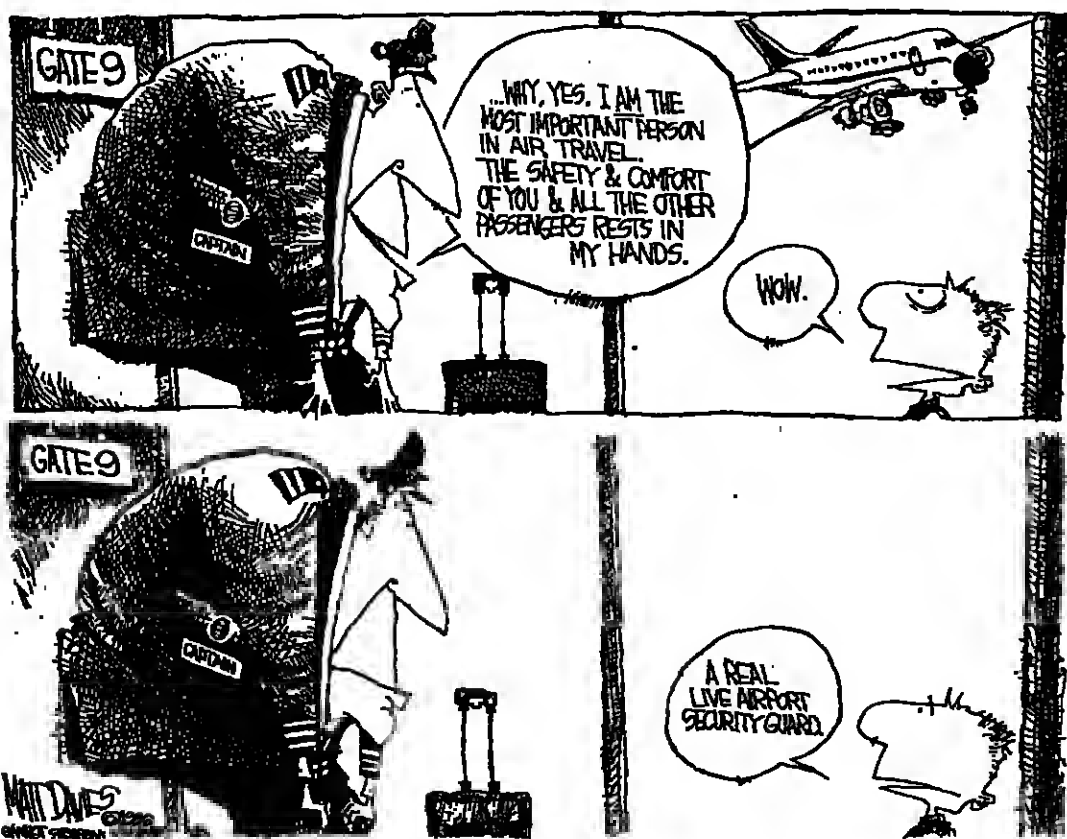
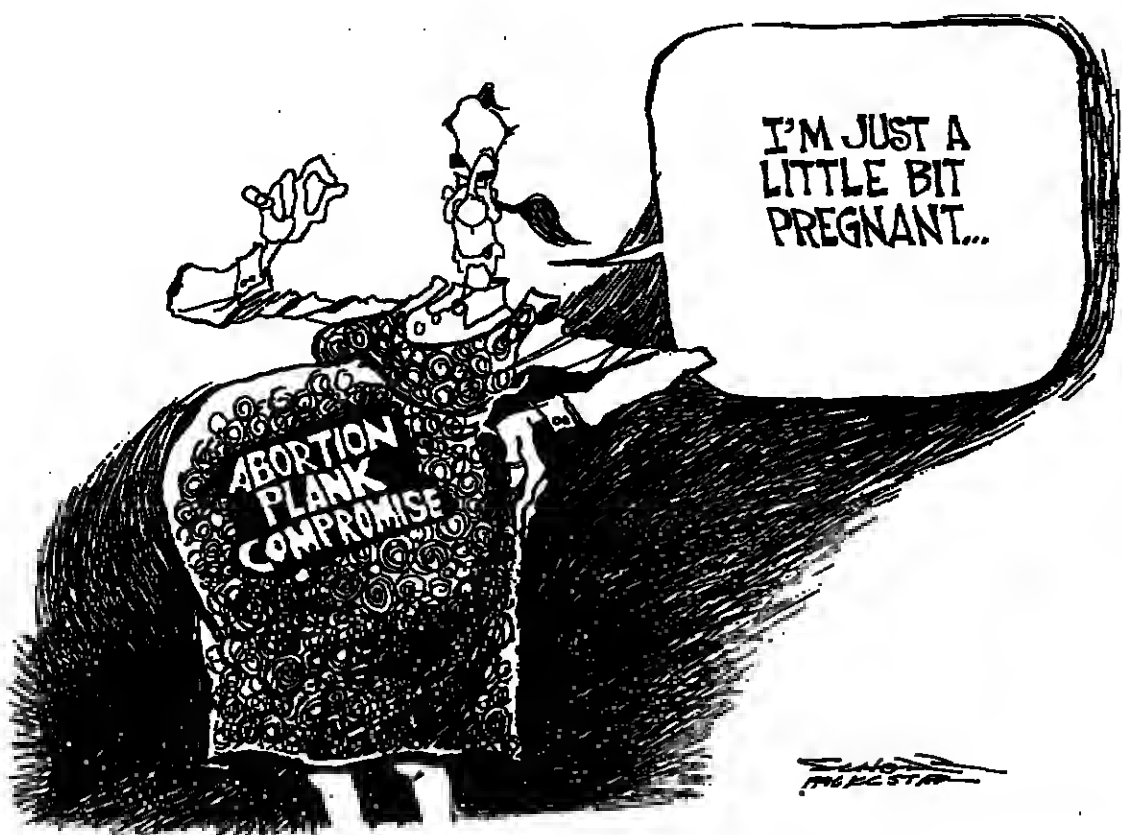
I feel very fortunate to be a teacher. It is a wonderful profession that allows one to continue to have an impact for many years. This is even truer of elementary and high school teachers, who can have a more profound impact on the unformed minds and characters of their younger and more impressionable students. Today, half a century later, I remember all of my elementary school teachers, especially those who encouraged me. I wish our society would place a higher premium on elementary and high school teaching. Good teachers of young students are the true heroes. Poor teachers can be real villains. We must be able to distinguish between those who help and those who hurt, and encourage the former while trying to improve the latter. The first step is to raise the prestige and salaries of elementary and high school teachers.

As I think about the students whom I will be meeting on the morning after Labor Day, I realize that some of them will still be practicing law by the middle of the 21st century, long after their teachers have been gone and forgotten. Maybe, just maybe, an idea that one of us suggested back in the 20th century could influence an argument or decision half a century from now. That is the closest anyone can hope to come to immortality.

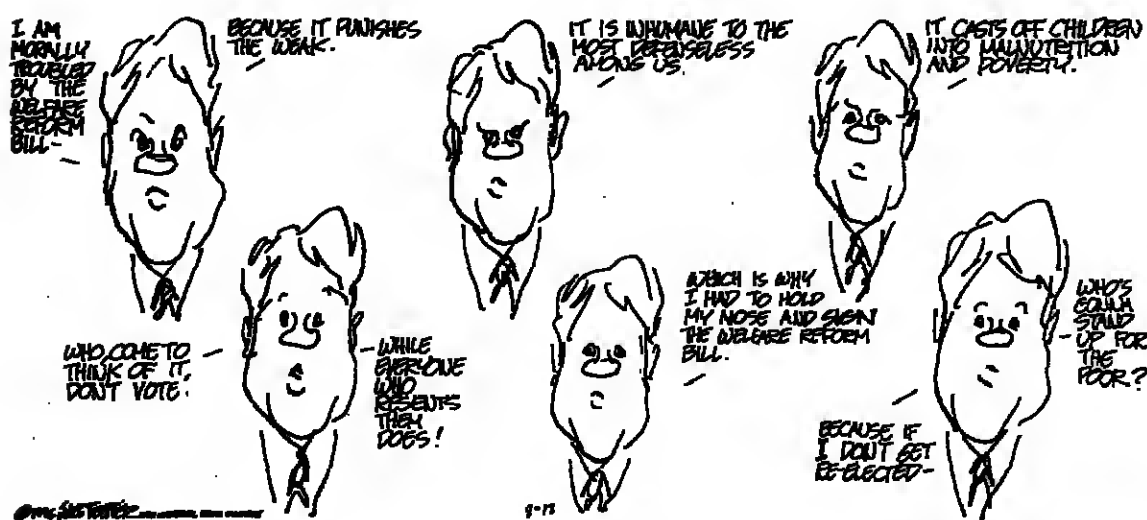
Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest book is *Reasonable Doubts* (Simon & Schuster).

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS



FEIFFER



Smile for the cameras — or else

By HANNA ROSIN

On Coronado Island, near San Diego, the Florida delegation to the Republican National Convention is hosting its first breakfast. Two delegates, Norma Thomson and Pamela Bunsen, wear the omnipresent hats: white straw, with "The Life of the Party" in red letters on the brim — a poor, off-kilter joke. I ask them how they feel about pro-choice delegates. They look at each other, then at me, and chime, in perfect unison, "Florida united in victory for Dole/Kemp," as if I were a TV camera. I ask state delegation chair Tom Slade how he unifies his cattle ranchers, Cubans and Palm Beach snobs. He replies tautologically: "We live in total harmony." A forced smile stretches across his face.

The Florida delegation is not just an island of harmony. It is a microcosm of the whole convention, a model state for the Bob Dole nation. Determined not to repeat the 1992 Houston debacle, the Dole campaign went to great lengths to preach tolerance. To enforce this civility, convention managers borrowed a page from John Gotti. Tolerate, or be swiftly punished.

For starters, campaign memos offer helpful fashion tips: "Pale blue, grey and tan do not show well," and ladies should never wear jingly bracelets or forget their lipstick. In the Kansas delegation, not a hair is out of place — crisp white shirts, red and blue accessories. The delegates, placed front and center for the TV cameras, were telephoned several times a day with reminders to act happy. "Heads up, keep smiling, keep everybody in their seats, no frowning, that kind of thing," explains delegate Karen Castro, as she reaches out to straighten my collar.

Speakers are kept on a tight leash. It's no coincidence that every speech ends up a dull echo of the one before, every wife the "first lady of my life," all children "beautiful," every family replete with a grandfather who "climbed up from nowhere" or who was downsized — and didn't complain. Almost every single convention speaker underwent a vetting interview. Survivors were assigned a topic to speak on, such as taxes or the future of the party. Off limits were abortion and

the call to deny birthright citizenship to the children of illegal aliens. Those who accepted were given a staffer to "help" with the draft. "There is no free-lancing involved," Republican Party Chairman Haley Barbour snapped in a moment of surly frankness. "We're not going to let people talk about whatever it is they feel like talking about."

The pro-choicers suffered the most. Maryland Representative Connie Morella made the best of it. "The platform recognizes there is diversity," she said, and listed the names of pro-choice congresswomen speaking: Susan Molinari, Jennifer Dunn, Deborah Pryce, Sue Kelly. But the women were permitted to speak only because they all agreed in advance not to mention the a-word.

Determined not to repeat the 1992 Houston debacle, the Dole campaign went to great lengths to preach tolerance. To enforce this civility, convention managers borrowed a page from John Gotti. Tolerate, or be swiftly punished.

The men — Governors William Weld and Pete Wilson — both on the late-July list of speakers, wouldn't relent. When Weld, who hadn't yet received a formal invitation to speak, called convention organizers, they asked what he wanted to talk about. He proposed a variation of his 1992 speech, where he was booed for mentioning his pro-choice views. They called back and asked him to speak on taxes. He declined. Then, a week before the convention, they offered him a spot introducing two videos — one on Morry Taylor, the other on an average American couple talking about their taxes. Again, he said no.

Wilson was dealt a more humiliating fate. Two weeks before the convention, having already received an invitation and a fashion

memo, he began a pro-choice campaign. He wrote a New York Times op-ed pressuring Dole on the platform. He lobbied delegates to start a floor fight. When the platform committee removed diversity language from the plank, he called Dole immediately. He got no answer. He decided to hold a press conference in San Diego. About an hour later, Dole called. Wilson listened for 15 minutes, and they came up with a compromise. Pro-choice views would be amended as a minority opinion, as in a Supreme Court case, at the end of the document. They negotiated down to the size of the type (the dissents would be bound with the platform and printed in the same font). Still, Dole held a grudge, and Wilson was never offered a real speaking slot. Dole offered to let the governor stand behind the mayor of San Diego during her speech. Wilson passed.

As recriminations set in among the pro-choice camp — "For Weld, this is a pumped-up ruse because he's running for Senate," says an ally — the pro-lifers held a "Whale of a Party" at Sea World. In a sunny, open-air tent with red, white and blue flaps, Pat Buchanan declared victory before a roaring crowd: "The platform reflects the views of the right to life all the way!" Eagle Forum founder Phyllis Schlafly, radiant in a Matisse-print outfit, presented veteran pro-lifers with crystal whales, then sashayed with California Representative Bob Dornan to "Missouri Wolf." The shadows of passing eagles glided across the tent like a blessing of the holy spirit.

It's hard to think of Bob Dole as a puppeteer, engineering all the details. His speeches teem with self-doubt. "I guess, as Winston Churchill said, never give up, never give up, never give up," he said, about as flatly as roadkill on the Kansas plain. That day he was speaking to a group of dog trainers called Canine Companions for Independence. Dog trainers? One of them explained, "We give them obedience classes so the dogs are manageable in all situations." Dole smirked.

Hanna Rosin is an associate editor of *The New Republic*, in which this article first appeared.

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else

[illegible]

Panel 1: A boy with glasses and a striped shirt says, "I DON'T KNOW HOW TO READ." An older man with a mustache and a bow tie replies, "WELL, THAT'S TOO BAD.."

Panel 2: The boy is sitting on a bench, looking thoughtful. He says, "I KNOW HOW TO PLAY WITH A DOG!"

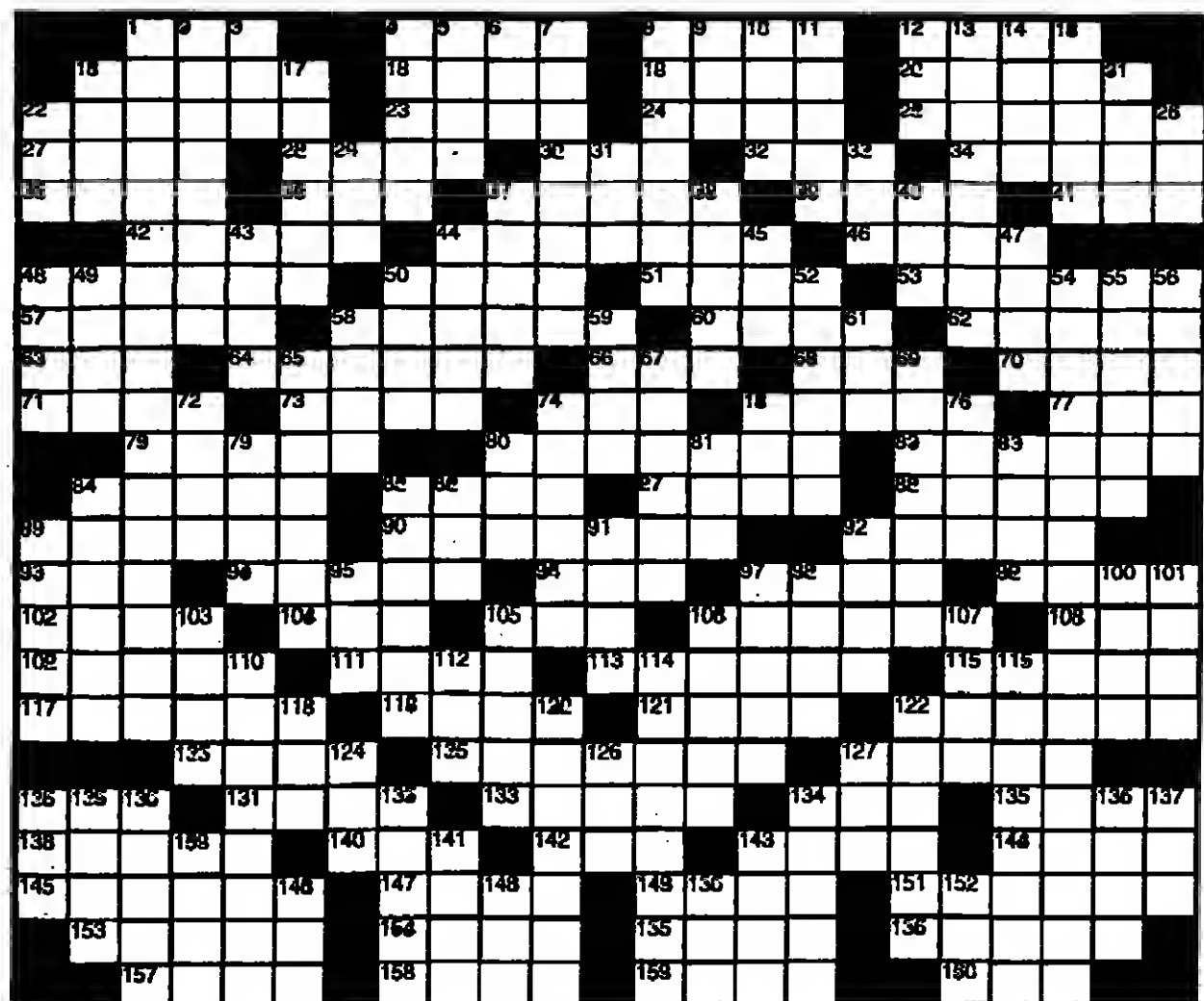
BOY, AM I **FILL!** I MUST'VE GAINED TEN POUNDS TODAY! MAYBE I'M GETTING A LITTLE PLUMP?

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M GETTING BIG, BUT I'M STILL NICE AND LEAN!

A cartoon by Dave Coverly. It depicts four men on a beach. One man is sitting in a wheelbarrow, another is digging with a shovel, a third is shoveling sand, and a fourth is standing. A sign in the background says "MEN WORKING". A speech bubble from the man in the wheelbarrow says "MAN ON WHEEL!".

TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

- | ACROSS | DOWN | measure |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Sheep sound | 1 MTV stars | 75 Ultimate degree |
| 4 Free kick | 2 Why-haired terror | 76 Plant part |
| 8 Hush! Film's | 3 Burn | 80 June bug |
| 10 Transport | 4 Cart | 81 — lawn do |
| 12 Movie camera | 5 Dive's solo | 83 Landed |
| 16 Slide-up | 8 Transgression | 84 Withdraw |
| 18 Clapton or Ambley | 7 Runpage through | 85 On the water |
| 19 Sporty river | 9 Stare | 86 Female deer |
| 20 Ability | 8 Relief Interval | 88 In effect |
| 22 Anecdote | 9 Lincoln's nickname | 91 — like Terrible |
| 23 Medicament | 10 —'s college org. | 92 — — — |
| 23 1482 ship | 11 Sum | 93 Moon vehicle |
| 24 Chair | 12 Venomous snake | 97 Played a role |
| 25 Rack and — | 13 "Beauty is only —" | 98 Mark |
| 27 Foot on good health | 14 Singer Turn | 100 Trifling |
| 28 — "Line" | 15 Skit type | 101 Tigris or ERA |
| 30 CEO, e.g. | 16 Listen to | 103 Actor — |
| 32 Shooty mirble | 17 Place of worship | 105 Author Zola |
| 34 Across Travels | 18 —, snack, and | 107 — — — |
| 35 Grazing | 19 —, barrel | 107 Hints delay |
| 36 Use a lever | 20 Pennside | 110 Word on junk mail |
| 37 Intam | 26 American humorist | 112 George Garwin |
| 39 British nobleman | 25 Jazz Kid | brother |
| 40 — — — | 31 Address Lupino | 114 Star |
| 42 Field or Strubbe | 33 Sissy's need | 115 Blue denim |
| 44 Kennedy or Mann | 37 Signified | 118 Work unit |
| 46 Sharp | 38 Crave | 120 California |
| 48 Hockey player | 40 Urp's ish | 122 Furlishing with |
| 50 Loc | 43 Lively time | weapons |
| 51 Eternally | 44 Hugs | 124 German city |
| 53 Weak | 45 Reed or Harrison | 126 Capak drama |
| 57 Man-made fabric | 47 Planket Peter — | 127 Downright |
| 60 Black-type | 48 Onions | 128 NW after time |
| 60 Teer | 49 Chocolate | 128 — sea |
| 62 Trojan War king | 50 Storage building | 130 Bandleader |
| 63 Condorced | 52 Type of sword | 132 Tube |
| 64 Gift | 54 Earl Lancaster/Karl | Shaw |
| 66 Polo Grounds | 55 Maiden punle | 134 Conduit |
| 68 — — — | 55 Post Sidney — | 136 Privy to |
| 70 Wooden pin | 56 Cornet | 137 Pull |
| 70 French river | 58 — gh | 139 Quirt's land |
| 71 Timber wolf | 59 Maple card | 141 Great letter |
| 73 Ore deposit | 61 Address Pyth | 143 Time long |
| 74 Face part | 55 Magic-temp owner | past |
| 75 African country | 67 Dozen | 144 Scottish river |
| 77 Noise | 69 Relatant | 146 Clear |
| 78 Forearm bones | 70 Butler substitute | 150 Cover |
| 80 Kitchen adjunct | 74 Mischief — | 152 TV actor |





Thanks to Dole, Kemp within reach of presidency

By JOHN B. JUDIS

By choosing Jack Kemp as his running mate, Bob Dole significantly improved his own chances of becoming U.S. president. But he also elevated Kemp, who was headed for obscurity after one failed run for the presidency in 1988. Like a big-name Hollywood star who ends his days playing second-rate hotels in Las Vegas and Atlantic City, Kemp, once thought to be U.S. President Ronald Reagan's successor, had become a regular on the corporate after-dinner circuit. How the former Buffalo congressman allowed this to happen reveals something about the peculiar kind of politician he is.

Kemp has never had the same searing ambition to be president that moved Bill Clinton, Bob Dole and other politicians who have sought the office. Time and again he proved unwilling to do the things every aspiring candidate must do to win. During the '70s and '80s, when he served in the House, well-meaning advisers told him repeatedly he needed to raise his national visibility and augment his fund-raising base to run successfully for president. But Kemp always balked at risking defeat and feared the loss of his congressional seat if he pursued statewide office.

In 1980, Kemp was widely urged to challenge incumbent Republican Senator Jacob Javits for the party nomination. When Kemp demurred, Al D'Amato, an obscure Long Island county official, entered the race, beat Javits in the primary and went on to become senator. In 1982, Kemp backed away from taking on New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

In the early '90s, when he served unhappily as the Bush administration's Housing secretary and resident black sheep, Kemp refused to listen to friends who urged him to resign and run for Senate in California in 1992. Instead, after Bush was defeated that year, Kemp founded Empower America, an organization that many viewed as a vehicle for a 1996 presidential bid. But he kept delaying a decision to run until it was too late. Wealthy contributors who thought they were funding Kemp by supporting Empower America felt cheated. Young conservatives who had seen Kemp as the leader of their generation were furious. One who went to work at Empower America told me last month, "Kemp bitterly disappointed me. He let me down. He didn't have the focus."

Kemp does not lack competitiveness. Friends testify that he hates to lose at anything, from politics to tennis. But running for presi-

dent, and doing so repeatedly until you either win or are ground down, requires something beyond a desire to compete. Kemp never quite had that. Once, sitting in his office at HUD waiting to interview him, I arrived at my own explanation. The office was filled with photos from his political career, but the largest picture, commanding an entire wall, showed him as a professional quarterback fading back to pass.

Most politicians who seek the presidency doggedly and indefatigably grew up bartering that single ambition. It was the end point of their life's struggle. As a child, Kemp had an overriding ambition, but it was not to be president of the United States. He wanted to be a professional football quarterback.

Bob Dole has now done for Kemp what Kemp couldn't do for himself. He has boosted him back into national leadership and put him within reach of becoming president.

Kemp's dream of becoming a pro quarterback was almost as far-fetched as Bill Clinton's or Richard Nixon's dream of becoming president, but he persisted. He was a successful quarterback in college, but pro scouts judged him to be too small. He spent three years writing coaches and wandering from team to team. Then in 1960, one of the new American Football League teams, the Los Angeles (later the San Diego) Chargers, gave him a shot. What Kemp lacked in size, he made up for in determination and savvy. He and the league succeeded; he became its most valuable player in 1965 and the leader of a championship Buffalo Bills team. Sportswriters eventually elected him to the ProFootball Hall of Fame, the sport's highest honor.

As I sensed that day in his office, Kemp's success at football exhausted that special reserve of ambition that people stow away for their highest goals. He realized the image of himself he had carried since his childhood. What came afterward could never have been as all-consuming. He had become interested in politics and economics in college — as a pro player, he used to read von Hayek on the bus and on planes while his teammates played cards — but he

never saw his career in sports as a springboard to politics the way many politicians view their earlier business careers. Instead, becoming a politician was a second career for him. Kemp pursued politics energetically, but not with the manic zeal with which he pursued becoming a pro quarterback.

That lack of zeal meant that Kemp would never become president simply on his own effort. He was unwilling to fight his way out of the pack in 1996 and to risk being branded a has-been and a failure. But the qualities that make a successful presidential campaigner aren't a prerequisite to being a good president. Dwight Eisenhower fulfilled his own dream on the beaches of Normandy. He was pressured to run for president in 1948, but resisted and had to be drafted into office in 1952. Once in office, Eisenhower made a decent president. On the other hand, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon and other men who burned and fought for the job probably suffered in office from their excessive determination to make a mark.

Bob Dole has now done for Kemp what Kemp couldn't do for himself. He has boosted him back into national leadership and put him within reach of becoming president. Even if Dole loses, Kemp will be well positioned for 2000. And if Dole wins, Kemp will become his heir apparent and will be in a position to assume an office that he was never quite willing to fight for.

John B. Judis is a senior editor of *The New Republic*, in which this article first appeared.

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AMERICAN OUTLOOK

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Enthusiasm runs high for Kemp

By ROBERT NOVAK

SAN DIEGO—The unprecedented impact of Jack Kemp on the U.S. Republican Party is typified by what I heard on the convention floor from Alex Arshinkoff, the veteran, respected Summit County Republican chairman from Akron, Ohio.

"I dreaded coming here," he admitted as speakers droned on from the podium. His countrywide polls, showing Bob Dole 32 points behind President Bill Clinton, pointed to disaster ahead. Then, Kemp's selection as vice president immediately cut the gap to 16 points. "All my dreams are realized," Arshinkoff enthused. "I'm really pumped up."

So were dozens of other Republican politicians I talked to on the convention floor. Far more than the carefully scripted, tightly controlled proceedings that suppressed all dissent, Kemp has transformed this convention's tone in a way not foreseen when Dole made his amazing choice.

Pat Buchanan, addressing angry followers on convention eve, recalled the medieval Lenten Truce of God to invoke a Truce of San Diego prohibiting intraparty warfare for the 10 weeks preceding the Nov. 5 election. But in fact, the non-contentious atmosphere is really a Truce of Kemp.

The plan conceived and executed by Republican National Chairman Haley Barbour and Dole campaign leaders was simple enough. Ideology of the Christian Coalition and other conservative activists would be relected in the platform but not in the antipetic image of the convention conveyed by television. No floor fights, no stidency, only choreographed Clinton bashing.

It worked beautifully because of Kemp—much more than the party managers who had long consigned him to the political wilderness. It would not have worked had Dole followed expectations and picked a solid conservative but unexciting running mate such as Sen. Connie Mack of Florida or Michigan Gov. John Engler.

Without Kemp, conservatives would not have happily accepted the steady march of moderates—heavily accented by women and blacks—to the podium. Gen. Colin Powell's opening speech might not have been so universally accepted. On the other hand, the graceless efforts by Gov. Pete Wilson to stir up trouble among moderates might have generated more support.

But with Kemp on the ticket, I could tap no unhappiness in the vast sea of delegates at the San Diego Convention Center. Remarkably, they have shunted aside sectarian quarrels about abortion, gun control and immigration to emphasize Dole's 15 percent tax cut. Without the tax cut, there could have been no Kemp on the ticket. Without Kemp, there would not have been unity on tax cut.

With Kemp on the ticket, I could tap no unhappiness in the vast sea of delegates at the San Diego Convention Center.

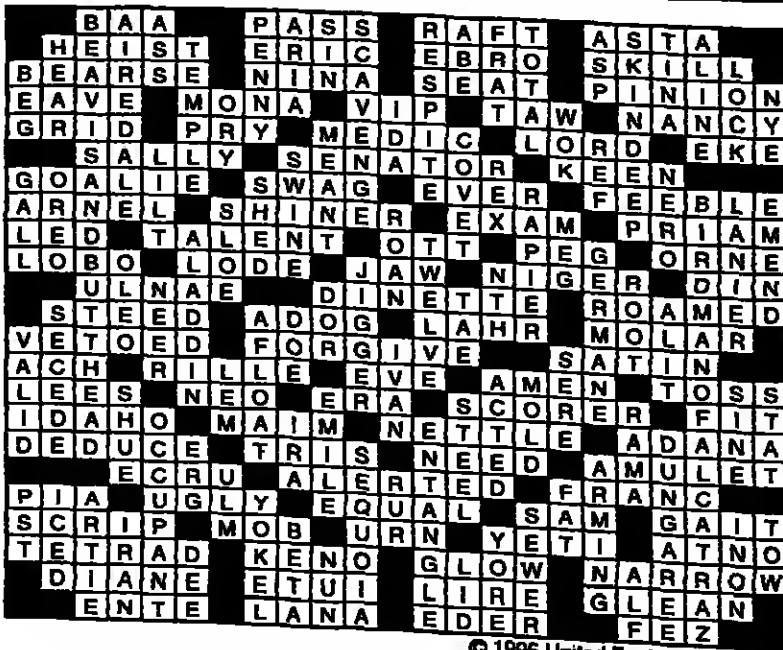
Scarcely a week earlier, Kemp considered himself finished in Republican politics. After he finally decided to attend the convention, a small dinner to honor him and reminisce over old times was arranged by longtime supporters. When Dole made his astounding decision, the affair was transformed into a Tuesday night reception to include some 200 old friends.

Many had no intention whatever of being in San Diego until they heard Kemp's summons but traveled across the continent to be here. They constitute an eclectic group, spanning ideological and cultural spectrums, but all are euphoric about Kemp. They were as diverse as John Mackey, the great football tight end, and the very conservative Alabama Chief Justice Perry Hooper.

Many in that reception have been unhappy with Kemp over the years. I was with an angry Sam Hardage, San Diego County Republican chairman and long a Kemp ally, two years ago, shortly after Kemp came out against California's Proposition 187 restricting benefits to illegal immigrants. Yet, at the Tuesday night reception, Hardage was just as enthusiastic as the other Kempites.

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the *Chicago Sun-Times*.

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First a lawyer, now a budding photographer

ON CAMERA
DAVID BRAUNER

DAVID Cohen carries two calling cards. On one he identifies himself as a lawyer, on the other is written "photography."

Cohen, 31, is a practicing lawyer, who is also on the verge of a serious career in still photography. In July-August he mounted his first solo exhibition at Tel Aviv's Art Photo Basel. Two months earlier he won his first major assignment: to take publicity shots for a BBC Radio production on Jerusalem 3000.

His double life began about 10 years ago as a student at Cambridge University. Seeking an outlet for his creative energies, he says, "I started photographing, because I couldn't draw." He joined the university photographic society and his early work won a number of prizes.

Cohen's photographic oeuvre reflects the many places he has been: Africa, the Far East, Latin America, North America and Indonesia. His exhibition focused on his wide travels through China.

The stories behind the individual photographs are as captivating as the images themselves. About a photo of a little Chinese girl making a face at the photographer, Cohen explains that she is "shedding light on something far more profound."

The girl is pulling her eyes down with her fingers to make them round, in much the same way as a Western child pulls his eyes to the side to give them an oriental, "slit-eyed" look.

Cohen says the child was deliberately expressing a "very Chinese attitude, a prejudice ingrained in children that people with round eyes are intrinsically inferior." That same prejudice is, of course, reversed in the West.

A picture of a young poker-faced Chinese soldier standing in a guardhouse blowing bubbles tickles the funny bone. The photograph was taken in Zolze, a closed Chinese town near the Tibetan border. Cohen comments, "He represents a human side of the Tibetan-Chinese conflict, a story usually portrayed only in militaristic, political or religious terms."

"I am always accommodating

and patient with people who are interested in communicating with me, even if we have no common language," says Cohen. His example is a picture of two boys, one carrying the other, in the midst of a lush green field.

The boys had spied the photographer taking their picture from afar with a telephoto lens. They came rushing up the hill to get a closer look. Cohen let them look through his camera, and experience the magnification of a telephoto lens.

On their return to work in the rice paddies, the two youngsters looked back at smiling gratitude. Cohen got the shot, terming the expressions on their faces "an explosion of spontaneity."

A similar image portrays a pair of Buddhist monks looking serenely at a picture of a pair of Buddhist monks in a tourist guidebook.

Asked if anyone in particular had influenced his documentary style of photography, Cohen names Brian Harris. Harris is a well-known British news photographer, whose innovative work Cohen had been following for years in *The Times* and *The Independent* newspapers.

In a chance encounter in Verona, Italy, Cohen fell into conversation with his idol. Cohen asked Harris what he had to do to be a professional photographer. Harris' answer was "just get on with it."

Quite coincidentally, Cohen met Harris again in Jerusalem while working on his first assignment for BBC radio. Harris remembered him after eight years.

Although Cohen loves traveling to distant places, he agrees that some of his best pictures are of subjects nearest home. He recently bought himself a simple point-and-shoot camera "for the occasions when I walk into the street at lunch time and see one of those moments when I would have said, 'I wished I had a camera.'"

For Cohen, "photography is a skill. It's a skill no one is born with, but like driving, anyone who has the desire can learn, develop and refine the techniques. It is the photographer who creates the circumstances of a well-taken picture."



A boy at the Kashgar Sunday market in Xinjiang Province in 1992, where over 100,000 people trade every week. (David Cohen)

Being 'just plain Jewish again'

THERE AND THEN
SRAYA SHAPIRO

SETTLING in Haifa, almost 60 years ago, London-born and bred Rachel Araten took some time to get used to the fact that almost everybody around her was Jewish. The language she heard was honey and music, sweet to the tongue and sweet to the ear.

She writes: "These are my people, their God is my God, their history is my history, and their heroes are my heroes. Goodbye Drake, goodbye Nelson."

She describes her integration in 1936 in the final story of her collection *Yes, We Came Home* (published in English by Gefen, 116 pp).

She eventually realized that the species "Jew" has many varieties, some of which require a great dose of humor to integrate with.

For instance, arriving at 2:30 p.m. prompt, to meet her Jerusalem-born cousin, she found a notice on the door: "Please wait, back immediately." At the time, Araten says, her familiarity with the way Hebrew was used was not good enough to know that "immediately" might mean anything from an hour to a whole afternoon.

When her cousin arrived, two and a half hours later, they went to the Western Wall. "There are more beautiful places than this shabby wall in the narrow lane with its slummy little houses," Araten writes. (The houses she refers to were removed only after the Six Day War.)

"Yet somehow it touches the hearts... One is plain Jewish again, neither Ashkenazi nor Sephardi. For this alone the visit is worthwhile."

These "large, clumsy stooges eaten away at the edges" comprise "a wall we love and cherish, for it belongs to the days of our life in the homeland, the only concrete reminder of a normal home... like the home of any other nation." The Wall symbolizes continuity. "It does not bridge a gap, it has prevented a gap from being formed at all."

Out of mischievous curiosity, she took out a scrap of paper from between the nooks in the Wall. It contained a plea to God to give health to Breine's niece, and give *parnossek* (livelihood) to Mendel. People treated Rachel with kindness. A housewife, "a bell-like matron almost completely covered in white apron," was ready with tea for the English girl. She kept the kettle warm under the feather-filled quilt on her bed. "Don't be shy," she admonished her guest. "I know that you English drink tea all the time."

Araten was angry at being called English. As she had been angry with her Yeminit laundry girl for calling her Ashkenazi.

"Strange that throughout all the suffering of the Dispersion, we had insisted on the idea of Israel being one nation; while here, back home, the manifold customs of the various communities set each of us apart from the rest."

But customs die hard, as we find out from the different stories in her collection. In one, Haim, an immigrant from the East-European shtetl, was worried about his daughter, "a *voil maedele*," (a good girl) who wanted to be a music teacher. What's wrong with that, you may ask?

Well, it takes three years to study. That means Haim will have to support his daughter out of his *keshene* (pocket). Rather, Haim decides, he'll find a nice Jewish boy for his daughter to marry. Is he aware that nowadays young people choose their partners themselves? Nonsense! Jewish life depends on young people marrying according to their parents' judgment. He was going to find a matchmaker!

In another story, a beggar offers his advice to a gentleman neatly clad who speaks impeccable High German. The gentleman wants to know why a couple of birds who nestle on his veranda produce no offspring. Perhaps they are of the same sex, ventures the pauper. He suggests that one of the birds should be exchanged for a specimen of a different sex. The gentleman is outraged. "But we like this pair, we don't want to part with them."

The first wave of homecoming, recalls Araten, took the immigrant from town to village, to live on the land. The vendor of seeds in town was besieged with questions. Does he have seeds of paper of the variety common in Romania? Can one grow artichoke here? A dozen customers waited to have an argument, rather than to buy anything.

A further story tells of Mr. Avni, once a rich merchant in Frankfurt, who becomes a farmer. He grows asparagus and lettuce. He even succeeds in helping his cow to give birth, though he ties the newborn's navel wrongly. But each afternoon, at 4:30, Mr. and Mrs. Avni partake of their coffee. For half an hour they are their old selves again.

After two years of careful tending, the farmer grows a lotus on the patch of land. Visitors come to take a photo. One early morning, the plant is at its most beautiful when the sun's rays penetrate its heart. Agriculture students come with their teachers. And finally, the rabbi of the nearby village brings his yeshiva pupils, "praising the Creator of the Universe for having kept us in life and for enabling us to have reached this season."

Aliens in America

Settling in the US can be an unsettling experience, Donna Abu-Nasr writes

AFTER living in the United States for 14 years, Mahdiyyah Yousef decided she'd had enough. Last year, she packed her bags and took her five daughters and two sons back home to the impoverished Gaza Strip. "I want to raise them in a pure environment," explained Mrs. Yousef, who was in the United States last month visiting her husband. For the Yousefs, that means a place where the sexes do not mix freely, where children are not openly curious about sex, where cartoons don't contain offensive jokes and where drug abuse and pre-marital sex are almost unheard of.

Like the Yousefs, many immigrants and foreign nationals who come to the United States find it a struggle to overcome cultural hurdles during their first few months, or even years. Some find the language incomprehensible, the food rubbery and tasteless, the people rude and the women either not as flirty, or not as conservative, as back home. Their children become a problem, too. The youngsters assimilate easily and pick up the new language quickly. And that can create a rift between child and parent. But unlike the Yousefs, most foreigners do adjust, and go on to get a degree or a job and live more prosperous lives than they would back home.

Mohammed al-Hanooti, a Palestinian who moved to the United States almost 20 years ago and now is imam of a Falls Church, Virginia, mosque, said that while most Muslim newcomers in his congregation face problems assimilating, most get over their difficulties and stay. "There is some sort of adjustment that they go through at the beginning. But they overcome this problem," said al-Hanooti.

Salvador Martinez, 28, an agricultural engineer who moved from El Salvador eight years ago because he couldn't find a good-paying job claims that "over here,

you work and you get money. Over there, you work but you don't see the money."

Martinez, now a salesman at an electrical equipment store, said his first few months here, learning English, were hard. "I didn't like the taste of the food. People were too abrupt. I didn't know how to treat American women. They didn't respond to flirting. With a Spanish woman, you give her one look and she'll know what you're trying to do," said Martinez, flashing a playful smile.

But now, Martinez - who wouldn't dream of making in El Salvador the \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year he makes here, has solved his problems and does not think of returning home. "I speak the language. I can buy Spanish food from the deli. I go out with Spanish women," said Martinez. "Mine has been a success story."

Unlike at the turn of the century, when most immigrants were European, most of the immigrants since 1964 have come from Latin America and Asia. Because of their background, their looks and their Western culture, the Europeans "just became Americans. They blended in more easily," said Gary Weaver, a psychiatrist and American University professor.

But the new immigrants have a harder time, he said. "They may experience discrimination, and they're often trapped in communities where there's a high concentration of (other) low-income minori-

ties, who resent the fact that these people are coming," said Weaver. Carlos Rojas, a Guatemalan who owns a handicraft store, said he found solace in the Guatemalan community in Washington's Adams Morgan neighborhood, where he now lives.

"It feels like home when I'm with my friends," said Rojas, 39, who came here with his parents 11 years ago. "We came out of the country but the country didn't come out of us."

Another reason for disillusion is the unrealistic expectation many immigrants bring with them, often gleaned from TV or friends. Once here, immigrants go through cycles - glorifying the way it was back home, then loving it here and hating it there - before finally finding the right balance.

Al-Hanooti, the Falls Church imam, said his congregation struggles to minimize the tensions between children and parents.

The mosque set up a recreational center where children can learn Arabic, women and teen-age girls can buy the long dresses worn by conservative Muslims, and young men and women are coupled off in arranged marriages.

But even that is sometimes not enough. Mrs. Yousef said she felt the barrier between her and her children grow when they started speaking English, which she speaks, rather than Arabic, at home. "I would feel so angry that I was tempted to punish them," said Mrs. Yousef, her head covered with a white scarf secured under her chin with a pink pin.

"I didn't want them to forget their history and their language." Her husband, Ahmed, a researcher and writer, said he didn't know what to do when his children came home from school with questions about sex. "I was shocked," said Yousef. "We never even dreamed of asking our parents such questions." (AP)

Protecting pets at home

HEADS 'N' TAILS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

APATHOLOGIST specializing in animals says that after poisoning the most common cause of death in dogs, especially young dogs, is eating indigestible material.

Most common of all, he says, is an intestinal obstruction caused by eating foam rubber or kitchen pot scourers.

It is extremely important not to give a puppy a bed made of material it can tear up and swallow. It is best simply to use an old blanket or a piece of carpet.

Another common household accident that kills both dogs and kittens (and sometimes parrots) is gnawing at electric wires, particularly a dangling extension cord. It is a good idea to keep extension cords and wires out of the reach of puppies and kittens.

If that is not possible, try to pass it through a length of garden hose or plastic tubing. The hose or tube length can be cut down and then taped together once the cord is inside. If not this, then at least tape such wires firmly to the wall so they are not quite so tempting. If a kitten or puppy is to be left alone, it should be confined to an area of the house that lacks such enticements.

Animals also get accidentally poisoned in the home. A neighbor of mine put rat poison in the storeroom of his poultry run. The rats and mice ate the poison, the cat ate the mice and died.

Many pets, both dogs and cats, have also been poisoned by drinking water from the toilet bowl, where disinfectant bars are in use.

These chemicals are extremely toxic and often cause death. And then there are the pets that eat roach poison and the countless cage birds and aquarium fish that are killed by aerosol sprays containing insecticides.

Never leave cage birds in the room when spraying it and always disconnect the air pump on the aquarium and cover it well with several layers of newspaper before using toxic materials in the room.

Just as you would always keep chemicals out of the reach of children, also keep them out of the reach of pets. Dogs often bite right through plastic bottles and get caustic burns to the mouth, paws and muzzle.

If you let your parrot or parakeets out of their cage, be sure the curtains are drawn to prevent the bird from hurting itself by flying into the clear glass window. Also, make sure all fires are out and that the hot plate of the stove is cool.

A bird can easily land on it while it is too hot. In general, birds should always be closely supervised when let out. The only other thing to remember is that you should never leave a dog alone in the car in summer, not even with the windows partially open. An amazing number of dogs get heat strokes from this. And be sure that all your pets have constant access to clean water.

Most of these rules are actually a matter of common sense, but by observing them you and your animal companions will be much better off.

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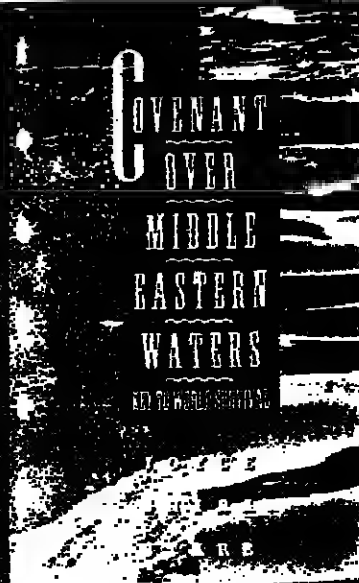
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Pakistan in good shape at the Oval

LONDON (Reuters) Rain left England up the creek without a paddle yesterday when less than three hours were possible between the showers on the third day of the final Test against Pakistan at the Oval.

Pakistan had reached 329 for four when the weather intervened for the final time, giving them a lead of 13 runs with two days remaining to safeguard their 1-0 lead in the three-test series.

The heavy showers submerged any faint chance England had of fighting their way back into an improbable winning position, but at least saved the home bowlers from possible further embarrassment.

When Pakistan resumed after lunch on 318 for two, with Saad Anwar unbeaten on 169, the onus looked distinctly unpromising for an England attack operating on a flat strip. But rain during the lunch interval appeared to freshen up the pitch and they were able to remove both Anwar and the dangerous Inzamam-ul-Haq in the briefest of afternoon sessions.

Anwar advanced to a Test-best 176 before a loss of concentration cost him the chance to become the sixth Pakistani to score a double hundred against England.

His classy innings, which spanned 379 minutes and included 26 fours, ended when he mistimed a pull off Dominic Cork and skied a catch to Robert Croft at mid-on. Inzamam had perished to a short

delivery from Alan Mullally at the other end moments earlier, hooking straight to Nasser Hussain in deep square-leg, having made 35 in 80 balls.

The double success at least dragged England back from the abyss which threatened to swallow them on Friday evening, when their bowlers were dispatched to all parts of the Oval.

Rain also shortened the second day, when the Pakistanis romped to 229 for one in reply to England's first innings total of 326.

Mullally and Croft kept things tighter in the first hour of the morning, conceding just 25 runs and removing the prolific Ijaz Ahmed for 61 when he edged to a catch to Alec Stewart behind the stumps.

When the players belatedly attempted to start again after tea, a mere 10 balls were possible before the rain returned again. In total, just 38.3 overs were bowled in the day.

England first innings 326
(Crawley 106, Thorpe 54; Younsa 4-95)
Pakistan first innings (overnight 229-1)
Saad Anwar c Croft b Cork 176
Aamir Sohail c Croft b Croft 46
Ijaz Ahmed c Stewart b Mullally 61
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Hussain b Mullally 35
Salim Malik not out 2
Asif Mujtaba not out 1
Extras (0-4 lb 3 rb 1) 8
Total (for four wickets) 339
Fall of wickets: 1-106 2-239 3-334 4-334
To bat: Wasim Akram, Moin Khan, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Mohammad Akram
Bowling (to date): Lewis 12-1-76-0, Mullally 22-6-56-2, Croft 29-6-64-1, Cork 14-3-44-1, Salisbury 17-0-81-0

Cardinals take over first from Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Ray Lankford homered in the third inning and Donovan Osborne pitched seven solid innings as St. Louis beat the Houston Astros 1-0 and moved into first place in the NL Central.

The Cardinals played sparkling defense in beating Houston for the seventh straight time this season and took a half-game lead over the Astros in the opener of their four-game series.

Osborne (11-8) allowed five hits, struck out six and walked six. He was supported by three high-light catches by his outfielders.

Dennis Eckersley pitched the ninth for his 22nd save. The Astros stranded 12 runners in spoiling an outstanding performance by Darryl Kile (10-8). In eight innings, Kile allowed seven hits, struck out nine and walked one.

Braves 4, Cubs 3
Chipper Jones hit two home runs for the third time this season and Greg Maddux improved to 4-0 lifetime against his former Chicago teammates.

Jones connected in the first and fifth innings off Steve Trachsel (11-7), hitting his home run total to 28 and his hitting streak to a career-high 17 games. He has 98 RBIs.

Maddux (12-10) allowed three runs — two earned — on four hits in seven innings. He struck out seven and did not walk a batter in improving to 10-2 at home.

Atlanta's Marquis Grissom doubled in two runs in the fourth to extend his hitting streak to 27 games.

That matches John Flaherty of San Diego for the longest in the majors this year.

Trachsel (11-7), who had not lost in seven starts since July 12, had his winning streak stopped at four.

Dodgers 7, Mets 5

Eric Karros and Raul Mondesi hit consecutive two-run doubles in the fifth inning for the host Dodgers, and Todd Worrell broke his own Los Angeles record with his 33rd save.

Bernard Gilkey hit a three-run homer for the Mets.

Ramon Martinez (10-6) allowed four runs and six hits over seven-plus innings. The right-hander was helped by two double-play grounders, both by slumping Carlos Baerga.

Expos 10, Giants 8
Henry Rodriguez hit two of visiting Montreal's season-high five home runs and San Francisco reliever Mark Dewey threw two wild pitches that allowed runs to score, including the go-ahead run.

Giants outfielder Barry Bonds struck out as a pinch-hitter with two outs in the ninth, but extended the National League's longest current consecutive games played streak to 356. He has a strained left hamstring.

Rodriguez's 32 home runs tie him with Andre Dawson (1983) for Montreal's single-season record. Raulo White, F.P. Samungolo and Mike Lansing also homered.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Yankees 5, A's 3
Dwight Gooden pitched host New York past its first-inning problems before leaving after the fifth with a migraine headache, and Mariano Rivera provided late relief in a win over Oakland.

The Yankees had been outscored 21-1 in the opening inning of their previous six games, but Gooden (11-5) escaped unscathed when he retired Gerardo Berroa on a fly ball with runners on second and third to end the inning.

New York found itself in trouble again in the ninth when Mark McGwire came up with runners at the corners and two outs. But Rivera struck out McGwire for his fifth save.

Cecil Fielder hit his 32nd homer and Wade Boggs had a two-run double as the AL East leaders went on to win for just the fifth time in 14 tries, sending Oakland to its ninth loss in 11 games.

Angels 2, Orioles 0

Chili Davis and Jim Edmonds hit solo homers, and Shawn Boskie pitched 6 1/3 solid innings as visiting California extended its winning streak to three games.

Boskie (12-6) allowed four hits and permitted only one runner past second base. The right-hander struck out seven, walked three and hit a batter.

Boskie outpitched David Wells (9-12), who allowed five hits in eight-plus innings.

BASEBALL NOTES

Yankees, Brewers swap outfielders, relievers: The New York Yankees on Friday sent outfielder Gerald Williams and reliever Bob Wickman to the Milwaukee Brewers for reliever Graeme Lloyd and outfielder Pat Listach. Williams, a smooth fielding outfielder, was hitting .270 with five homers and 30 RBIs.

Wickman, a right-hander, was 4-1 with a 4.67 ERA and 61 strikeouts in 79 innings for the Yankees, who lead the AL East by five games over Baltimore.

Lloyd, a left-handed setup specialist, was the Brewers' most effective pitcher this year, compiling a 2.82 ERA, although he was 2-4. Listach, who had leg injuries the last three seasons after winning AL Rookie of the Year honors in 1992, was hitting .240 with one homer and 33 RBIs. He also had 25 stolen bases in 30 attempts.

Twins give Knoblauch \$30m. contract extension: The Minnesota Twins decided they couldn't afford to lose Chuck Knoblauch, ending almost a year of speculation about his future by giving the All-Star second baseman a five-year, \$30 million contract extension.

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Boston 2, Oakland 1
California 12, New York 3
Seattle 10, Baltimore 3
Detroit 10, Kansas City 3
Texas 11, Minnesota 2
Toronto 1, Chicago 0 (6 inn., rain)

FRIDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Milwaukee 6, Cleveland 5 (11)
California 2, Baltimore 0
Toronto 4, Chicago 2
Minnesota 9, Texas 2
Detroit 3, Kansas City 2
New York 5, Oakland 3
Seattle 6, Boston 4

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
	W	L	Pct	Ga
New York	73	54	.575	6
Baltimore	67	60	.528	6
Boston	64	65	.496	10
Toronto	60	69	.465	14
Detroit	46	82	.359	27 1/2
Central Division				
Cleveland	78	52	.594	—
Chicago	69	61	.531	8
Minnesota	64	64	.500	12
Milwaukee	61	68	.473	15 1/2
Kansas City	58	72	.446	19
West Division				
Texas	74	55	.574	—
Seattle	68	61	.520	7
Oakland	62	69	.473	13 1/2
California	60	68	.469	13 1/2

THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Colorado 10, St. Louis 5
Pittsburgh 8, Houston 6
Montreal 5, San Francisco 4
Los Angeles 8, Philadelphia 5
Cincinnati 3, Atlanta 2 (13)

FRIDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Cincinnati 6, Florida 5 (1st game)
Florida 8, Cincinnati 3 (2nd game)
St. Louis 1, Houston 0
Pittsburgh 5, Colorado 3
Atlanta 4, Chicago 3
Philadelphia 7, San Diego 4
Los Angeles 7, New York 5
Montreal 10, San Francisco 5

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	80	47	.630	—
Montreal	69	58	.543	11
Florida	59	70	.457	22
New York	59	70	.457	22
Philadelphia	53	76	.411	28
Central Division				
St. Louis	68	60	.531	—
Houston	68	61	.527	1/2
Cincinnati	64	63	.504	3 1/2
Chicago	63	63	.500	4
Pittsburgh	55	73	.430	13
West Division				
San Diego	70	50	.588	—
Los Angeles	68	60	.531	1
Colorado	66	63	.512	3 1/2
San Francisco	54	72	.429	14

Juventus, Man Utd. in same Champions' League group

GENEVA (Reuters) European champions Juventus will face English league and cup double winners Manchester United in this season's European Champions' League.

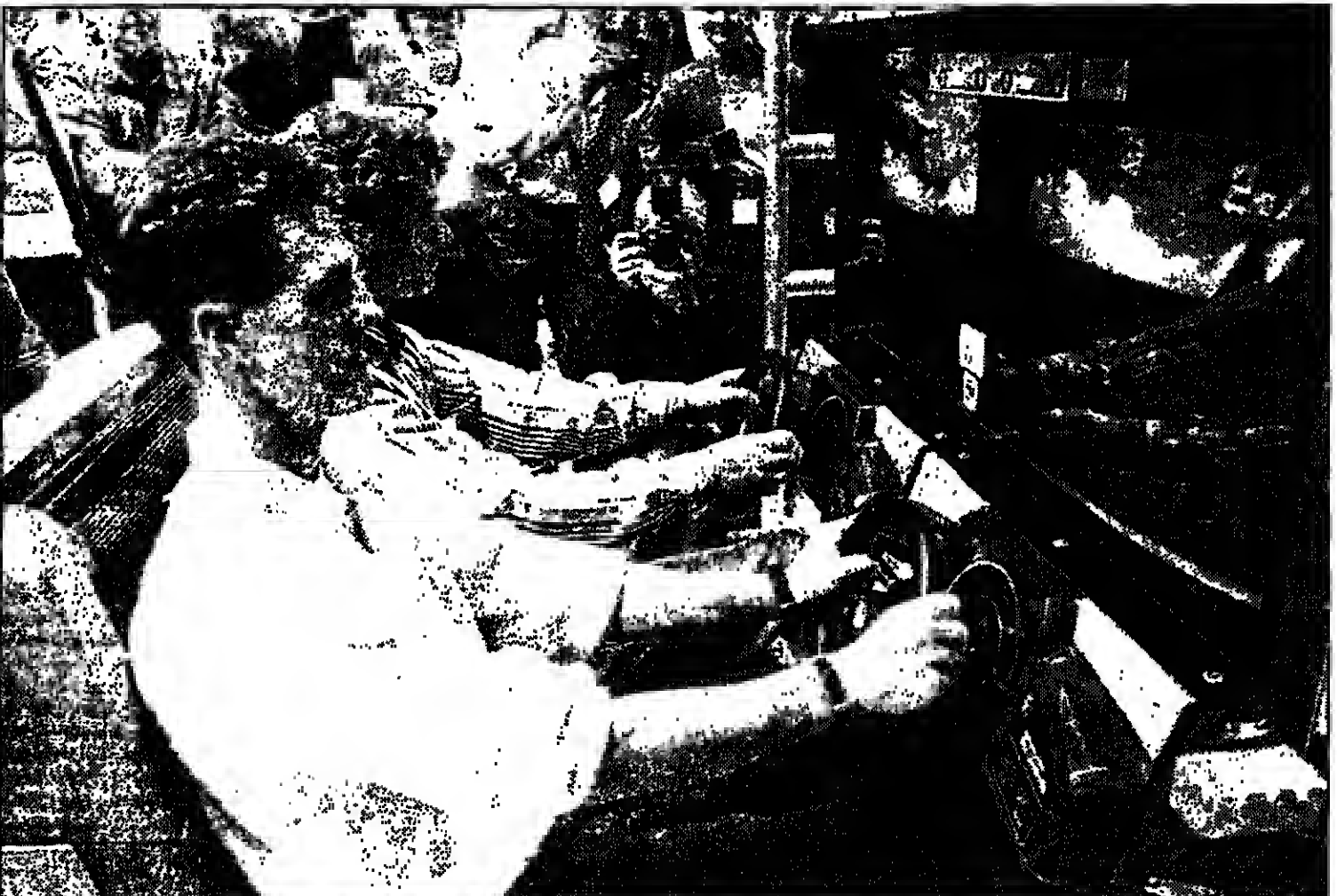
The draw made on Friday pitted Juventus, who beat Dutch champions Ajax Amsterdam in last year's final, against Alex Ferguson's European hopefuls in group C. The other two teams in the group are last season's Cup Winners' Cup runners-up Rapid Vienna and Turkey's Fenerbahce.

United have won three Premier League titles in the past four years, but have consistently failed in Europe, crashing out of the European Cup to Galatasaray and Barcelona in their last two attempts.

Ajax, which won Europe's top domestic trophy in 1995 after two decades in the European doldrums, face French champions Auxerre in Group A. The other two teams are Glasgow Rangers and Grasshoppers of Zurich.

AC Milan, which won in 1989, 1990 and 1994, should have few problems qualifying from Group D, where they face Portugal's Porto, Sweden's Gothenburg and Norway's Rosenborg.

Steaua Bucharest, European champions in 1986, take on last year's quarterfinalists Borussia Dortmund and Spanish double winners Atletico Madrid in Group B. Widzew Lodz of Poland are the other team in the group.



VIRTUAL F-1 KING — German F-1 driver Michael Schumacher (foreground) and teammate Eddie Irvine of Ireland race each other at a video arcade in Holland last week. The pair will be racing in real Ferraris at today's Belgian Grand Prix. (Reuters)

Teammates Hill, Villeneuve only face each other for world title

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (AP) — For sheer lack of opposition, teammates now turn on to each other.

With defending champion Michael Schumacher blown out of sight, Williams-Renault teammates Damon Hill and Jacques Villeneuve only have each other to beat to earn their first Formula One world championship title.

And even though the more experienced Hill leads by 17 points with only 40 left at stake, rookie Villeneuve is not about to throw in the towel at today's Belgian Grand Prix.

"It's a fight for the championship," said Villeneuve. "It's not as if I will yield the inside track," he said.

And the spectacular Spa-Francorchamps track should be to liking.

The 6.974 kilometers of gray asphalt cut through the pristine wooded Ardennes hills teeming with daring, fast corners and spectacular descents — picture perfect for an adrenaline driver like Villeneuve.

And he will need to be the daredevil since Hill has a healthy cushion in the standings and can drive much more defensively.

It matters little that Villeneuve hasn't driven the racecourse yet. He also won in Hungary two weeks ago, even though he had never laid eyes on the Hungarian.

Hill has already fallen in love with the course winning two of the last three races here. He was second to world champion Michael Schumacher in miserable, wet conditions last year.

This year, Schumacher in no factor in the world standings, as his worst enemy so far turned out to be his recalcitrant Ferrari.

Not that Villeneuve minds. If he wins he can stay on course for the rarest of doubles — win the Formula One title the year after capturing the IndyCar championship. Britain's Nigel Mansell performed that feat in reverse order in 1992-1993.

As a rookie, it has been an unbelievable season for Villeneuve, especially since last month.

He has steadily grown in stature during races, winning in Hill's back yard in Silverstone and in Hungary.

The problem is that he has yet to match Hill in qualifying, forcing him to start back on the grid on race day. That should not matter much here, since the track is strewn with passing opportunities.

The Belgian Grand Prix brings back tragic memories for the Villeneuve family. His father Gilles died in an accident during practice in 1982 at the Zolder circuit.

But Villeneuve cannot dwell on that once he steps into the overpowering Williams-Renault, which has already won the team constructors championship.

Hill now has 79 points, compared to 62 for Villeneuve. Jean Alesi, in a Benetton-Renault, is a distant third with 35 points. Schumacher is only fourth with 29. A win counts for 10 points, with subsequent places dwindling down 6-4-3-2-1.

The dynasty continues: Braves roll towards fifth straight playoff berth

ATLANTA (AP) — While the rest of the National League worries about little annoyances like divisional races and wild-card possibilities, the Atlanta Braves have set their cruise control.

A fifth straight trip to the post-season is all but assured for the defending World Series champions, who have, overcompensating for injuries to build the best record in baseball and a commanding lead in the NL East.

This is history in the making: Only two teams, the New York Yankees and the Oakland A's, have gone beyond the regular season five consecutive times. With a 12-game lead over Montreal before Thursday's action, the Braves are a lock to make it three.

"It's good to have the big lead," said third baseman-turned-shortstop Chipper Jones. "You can play everybody and give guys some days off. We have some new people — Andruw (Jones), Terry (Pentleton), (Luis) Polonia, the bullpen guys — and it takes some time to fit in. This is a good time for them to mesh."

Of all the Braves' success this decade — NL pennants in 1991 and '92, a West Division title in '93 and the World Series victory last season — this may go down as their most trying yet satisfying year.

David Justice, the team's No. 5 hitter and a key run-producer, was lost in May with a shoulder injury. Starting pitcher Steve Avery has been out for six weeks with a pulled muscle, and may not return until mid-September. Shortstop Jeff Blauser is sidelined with a broken bone in his hand.

"The biggest thing is getting guys healthy," said 20-game winner John Smoltz. "We feel like we're still the team to beat. But if the playoffs were to start tomorrow, we're hurting."

Of course, the Braves always seem to overcome whatever adversity comes their way. When the injuries began mounting, John Schuerholz waved his magic wand — and voila — proved again he is one of the best general managers in baseball.

Pentleton was acquired from

Florida for a minor leaguer. Polonia was signed after being released by Baltimore. Andruw Jones, a 19-year-old phenom, was called up from the minors. So was pitcher Joe Borowski. Another reliever, Dean Hartgraves, was acquired on waivers from Houston.

With Blauser hurt, Pentleton took over at third, allowing the Braves to move Chipper Jones back to shortstop, the position he played in the minors. In spite of an unshortstop-like frame (6-foot-3, 200 pounds), Jones has fielded the position flawlessly and not let it affect him at the plate, putting together a 15-game hitting streak.

Polonia and Andruw Jones strengthened the bench and added flexibility to the lineup. The Braves began the year as a predominantly left-handed-hitting team, but they had seven right-handers in the lineup Wednesday night when the Reds started a left-hander. Then, with right-hander Jeff Brantley on the mound in the ninth, the left-handed-hitting Polonia delivered a game-winning sacrifice fly.

"We have a darn good bench,"

Smoltz said. "It's as good from top to bottom as it's been in a while. And that's what you need in the playoffs, the total package."

The pitching staff, meanwhile, has managed to endure injuries to Avery and fifth starter Jason Schmidt.

Rookie Terrell Wade (4-0, 2.12 ERA before Thursday's start against Cincinnati) and nine-year veteran Mike Bielecki (4-2, 2.47) moved into the rotation and their spots in the bullpen were taken by Borowski (1-0, 2.61) and Hartgraves (1-0, 0.00).

Now, with a commanding lead in the East, manager Bobby Cox can begin to rest his Big Three — Smoltz (20-6, 2.89), Greg Maddux (11-10, 2.69) and Tom Glavine (13-7, 2.82) — before the playoffs.

"We've got to shore up the pitching a little bit," Smoltz said. "We've got to get healthy and get some rest. Even though on the outside it may look like we're all rested, it begins to take its toll toward the end of the year when you build up innings. So a rest here and there would be great."

They better rest now. Once again, the Braves will be busy in October.

Teams with five straight postseason appearances

THE Atlanta Braves are on the verge of becoming just the third team to reach the baseball postseason five consecutive seasons. A look at the other teams accomplishing that feat:

New York Yankees, 1949-1953 and 1960-64

This was the era of the eight-team leagues, with the pennant winners advancing straight to the World Series. The Yankees of 1949-53 became the only team to win five straight World Series titles. Amazingly, the Bronx Bombers could have won 10 straight pennants, but they were beaten in 1954 by 111-game winner Cleveland before a run of four more league crowns. In 1960, New York began another five-pennant streak, but won the World Series only twice, 1961 and '62.

Oakland Athletics, 1971-75

Tha A's came along after the start of divisional play, winning five straight American League West titles. Oakland was beaten in the league championship series in 1971 and '75, but won three straight World Series titles in between.

Chang, Sampras and Agassi poised for US Open run

NEW YORK (Reuters) — A trio of Americans — one seeking to avoid a rare Grand Slam shutout, another aiming to end a seven-year major title drought, and a third basking in the golden glow of Olympic glory — appear poised for a strong run at the US Open title.

But after a Wimbledon fortnight that seemed to have been planned by Lewis Carroll and the Mad Hatter — a Richard Krajicek-Matthias Washington final? — anything is possible during the toughest two weeks in tennis.

World No. 1 Pete Sampras, third-ranked Michael Chang and Olympic champion Andre Agassi all take summer hardcourt titles into the Open.

With Goran Ivanisevic's history of New York misery and Thomas Muster's lack of hardcourt success, Dutchman Krajicek, who picked off Sampras en route to his historic Wimbledon final, may be the one player with the confidence to keep an American from claim-

ing the national title — and he's picking Sampras.

"Sampras is still the favorite, he's on a different level," said Krajicek, who had enjoyed little Grand Slam joy before this year's topsy-turvy Wimbledon.

"I remember last year, he had a terrible summer coming into the Open and he just came here and won. He hasn't won a Grand Slam title this year so ... I think he will be very eager."

Despite a rocky year marked by injury and tragedy, Sampras remains the best tennis player in the world when on top of his game as he eyes his fourth US Open title of the decade.

Sampras set a remarkable pace for himself in grabbing two of the four major titles in each of the past three years.

But this year he lost to Australian Mark Philippoussis in third round of the Australian Open, fell to eventual cham-

pion Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia in the semifinals of the French and had his three-year Wimbledon reign halted by Krajicek in the quarter-finals.

Sampras missed the Olympics due to injury, but finally appeared to emerge from the emotional black cloud caused by the tragic death of close friend and mentor Tim Lullikson with his victory at last week's Indianapolis tournament.

That win could signal Sampras is back on course in his quest to equal his idol Rod Laver's total of 11 major singles titles by scooping up career No. 8.

The first of his generation of American players to make a Grand

Slam breakthrough at 17, 1989 French Open winner Chang is still waiting for his second major title.

But Chang is finally knocking at the Grand Slam door again. After finishing runner-up at last year's French Open and this year's Australian, Chang comes into the US Open as the hottest player on the ATP Tour.

Ranked a career-high third in the world and seeded second at the Open, Chang won Washington and Los Angeles and was runner-up in Cincinnati to take a 14-1 summer hardcourt record into this week's Hamlet Cup.

"I like to play in New York. The US

Welgreen beaten in Hamlet Cup

ISRAELI tennis player Nir Welgreen failed to reach the quarter-finals of the Hamlet Cup tennis tournament in Commack, New York, when he was beaten by Adrian Panait of Romania 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 on Thursday.

Four murdered over weekend

DAVID RUDGE and Itim

FOUR people were murdered over the weekend, including a Rishon LeZion jewelry store owner apparently slain during a hold-up, a convicted criminal and two prostitutes.

Baruch Farochzada, 55, was stabbed to death in his shop on Jabotinsky Street on Friday afternoon. Police summoned to the scene found him seriously wounded, and he died soon afterwards. Police set up roadblocks in the area and later detained a suspect.

A spokesman said it was believed one or two men were responsible for committing the crime, apparently during a robbery attempt, but that nothing was taken from the shop.

David Moshe, 38, of Kadima in the Sharon, a convicted criminal, was shot to death Friday afternoon by a motorcyclist who fired several shots at him and escaped. Police said other suspects then helped the gunman flee.

Police were investigating whether the murder was part of ongoing gang disputes in the region, or connected to the slaying of mobster Yitzhak Zigadon about a month ago and the murder of a Netanya man last year.

Police have detained a 19-year-old resident of the North for questioning in connection with the brutal murder of a prostitute whose body was found in an industrial zone in the Haifa bayside suburb Tsur Shalom on Friday night.

The dead woman, Dvora Bubbut, 34, of Hatzor Hagilit, was reportedly beaten to death. The police were summoned by a pimp who saw her get into a vehicle and drive away with a man. He became worried when she did not return after a long time and went to the area where he thought she might be, and found the body. The police investigation is continuing.

The body of a 30-year-old woman believed to be a prostitute was found Friday in south Tel Aviv. Police said they believe the woman, who could not be identified, was beaten to death.



Members of the Lubavitch Synagogue in Moscow examine damage Friday done by a bomb which exploded Thursday night. (AP)

Bomb damages Moscow synagogue, none injured

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

A BLAST damaged the Lubavitch movement's newly rebuilt Maryina Roshcha synagogue in Moscow late Thursday, elevating fears about the safety of Jews in Russia.

"It is evident that there are violent anti-Semitic forces in this country and the time has come for the authorities to deal with this matter seriously," Moscow's chief rabbi, Pinchas Goldschmidt, told The Associated Press.

The blast, at 11:40 p.m. Thursday, was

thought to be a bomb. It shattered more than a dozen windows and part of the roof, and toppled the Torah scrolls, according to the Lubavitch news service in Brooklyn.

The bomb apparently was placed against an outside wall of the three-story, brick building. No one was inside at the time, and there were no injuries.

"Police came and said it was clearly a terrorist act, and we are sure in our own mind it was done by antisemites," said

Zev Kuravsky, a leader of the congregation. He estimated the damage to Maryina Roshcha at \$15,000.

Last month, there was a fire at the synagogue and Judaic studies center started by Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz in Moscow's outskirts, and there was a blast at a synagogue in the northern city of Yaroslavl in April, according to news reports.

"Until now we were trying to convince ourselves that all these incidents were electrical or incidental," said Berl Lazar, the Lubavitch synagogue's rabbi and chairman of the Rabbinical Alliance of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Russia's Federal Security Service said that the explosive device did not appear to be linked to bombs placed on Moscow trains and buses in the past two months, Reuter reported.

The Maryina Roshcha synagogue

reopened in June after its 1926 wooden building was destroyed by fire in 1993. That fire was called arson, but no arrests have been made.

The original building was said to be the most active underground synagogue in Russia in the last seven decades, and was something of a symbol of resistance to Soviet-endorsed antisemitism and religious oppression.

Services were held as scheduled on Friday.



PABLO PICASSO (1881-1973)

Picasso lived through his art. And it is no exaggeration to say that 20th century lived through him. The Blue Period. The Pink Period. Cubism. Neo-classicism. Naturalism. Surrealism. No direction is alien to him and no technique remains untried. So what is he searching for? Picasso is quick to answer: "I do not seek, I find".



ERICSSON DH 353 (1996)

Who can talk of art and not mention Picasso? Who can talk of mobile phones and not mention Ericsson?

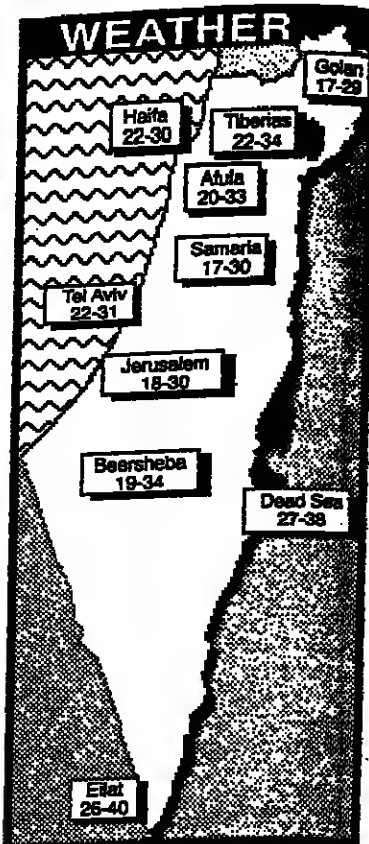
Three of Picasso's matchless works of art are now available in a collection of flips for our matchless DH 353 cellular phone.

DH 353 contains a larger number of functions and is easier to use than any other cellular phone, and to its list of advantages, it now adds originality. It is proof that art is not only beauty, but also usefulness.

* Other flips in the series: Keith Haring, Karel Appel, László Moholy-Nagy, Ulrica Hydman-Vallien.

ERICSSON

The Art of Communication.



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.

AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F	WIND	SEA
Amsterdam	13	55	15	20
Berlin	16	61	15	20
Buenos Aires	19	66	15	20
Cardiff	22	72	15	20
Chicago	18	64	15	20
Copenhagen	18	64	15	20
Frankfurt	18	64	15	20
Geneva	18	64	15	20
Helsinki	18	64	15	20
Hong Kong	27	81	15	20
London	18	64	15	20
Los Angeles	19	66	15	20
Moscow	19	66	15	20
Munich	19	66	15	20
New York	24	75	15	20
Paris	18	64	15	20
Rome	18	64	15	20
Stockholm	18	64	15	20
Sydney	21	70	15	20
Tokyo	21	70	15	20
Toronto	21	70	15	20
Zurich	18	64	15	20

IDF accuses Hizbullah of firing from near school

DAVID RUDGE

THE IDF has accused Hizbullah of again breaching the Operation Grapes of Wrath understandings by firing from near a school in a village north of the security zone.

The incident occurred on Friday night when gunmen opened fire with machine guns at a South Lebanese Army position in the central sector of the zone. There were no casualties among the troops manning the post.

According to a senior IDF source, the firing originated from near a school in Barasheet village, just north of the zone.

The use of populated areas or public utilities as cover for firing or launching attacks is banned in the understandings. It was not the first time that the IDF has reported Hizbullah's violation of the understandings in this respect, and on a

number of occasions the firing has originated from Barasheet.

Despite the incident on Friday night, the region has been relatively calm. Some observers attributed this to Hizbullah's involvement in the Lebanese parliamentary elections for only the second time in its history.

In the 1992 ballot, Hizbullah ran on a joint list with its rival, the Amal Shi'ite movement, and won a total of eight seats in the 128-seat Lebanese parliament. This time, however, the organization appears set to run on its own. Hizbullah is investing a great deal of time, effort and money in the election campaign and is mobilizing hundreds of activists and supporters in an effort to win at least as many seats as four years ago.

Driver of vehicle with anti-Rabin slogans released from custody

Judge: This man is pathetic, unstable

A RAMLE Magistrate's Court on Friday released a Jerusalem man who had been detained a day earlier after he was caught with stickers bearing malicious slogans against Yitzhak Rabin on his van.

Mordechai Mugzamov, 39, was apprehended by police in a patrol car in Ramle. The stickers on the commercial van bore the words: "Rabin was worse than Hitler" and "He was a murderer."

The police prosecutor claimed that Mugzamov should be charged with incitement to rebellion and that the stickers were a terrible insult to the memory of the assassinated prime minister. "The suspect has previously had files for similar suspected crimes opened by the police but has not stopped his activities which endanger public safety," the prosecutor charged. He requested that Mugzamov be remanded into five days' custody.

Mugzamov said, for his part, that he had written to many public figures to complain about Rabin's crime - bringing foreign workers into Israel. He repeated the charge that Rabin had been "worse than Hitler." The magistrate ruled that the suspect had not been involved in rebellion and therefore did not have to remain in detention. "This is a pathetic case of someone whose mental stability is in doubt and ... he should be brought instead to a psychiatrist," she ruled. (Tim)

Ramle man remanded for stabbing, brutally abusing his wife

A RAMLE man suspected of severely abusing his wife was remanded for seven days Friday by the Ramle Magistrate's Court.

Police told the court that they had "never seen anything like [state of the abused woman]." The man, 46, allegedly locked the woman in their home for five days straight during one incident of abuse. He also stabbed her and broke bottles on her to the point where her eyes were no longer visible, the police representative said.

As a result of the attacks, the woman was hospitalized at Tzrifin's Assaf Harofeh Hospital with moderate injuries, and medical reports document the abuse, he said.

He also noted that the man had stabbed his wife with a small sword she had bought him as a gift.

The suspect said in court that he beat and attacked his wife "out of love."

Judge Dalia Granot granted the remand request so police could prepare an indictment, noting that the case involves "severe abuse."

Police noted that the man had already been convicted on charges of abuse of his wife when she was his girlfriend.

The suspect asked the court to appoint him a lawyer and a woman psychiatrist. Police said it was unclear why he had requested a woman psychiatrist. (Tim)

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